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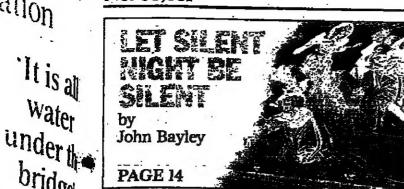
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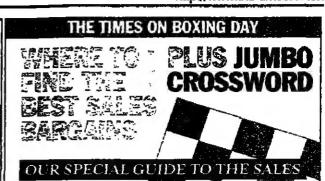
Geoff Brown makes his choices



LAST-MINUTE **CHRISTMAS** 

How to cope with any disaster

PAGE 13



Charles's popularity rivals Blair's

## Public swings in favour of the Prince

THE Prince of Wales has become as popular as Tony Blair after a big swing of public opinion in his favour since the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, according a MORI poll for The Times The poll, undertaken earlier

this month, shows that more than three-fifths of the public is satisfied with the way Prince Charles is doing his job with less than three in ten dissatisfied. This is the same balance as for Mr Blair. Despite a drop in the Prime Minister's ratings over the past month, these figures are still higher than those achieved by Margaret Thatcher at any time in her premiership.

These findings suggest that the public generally approves of the changed way that the Prince has handled his public appearances and his relations with his sons, Princes William and Harry, since their moth-

er's death on August 31. The precise figures are 61 per cent satisfied with the Prince and 29 dissatisfied, compared with 61 to 27 per cent for Mr Blair. But as recently as August, just before the death of the Princess, more people (46 per cent) were dissatisfied than satisfied (42 per cent) with the Prince.

The Prince of Wales has improved his ratings most among those aged over 55, with the middle classes and with Labour voters. His appeal seems to be strongest among the same non-Tory middle classes that have swung behind Mr Blair in the past couple of years. Mr Blair has higher approval ratings

ARTS 26.27

CHESS & BRIDGE \_\_ 29

SPORT 29-33

HOMES \_\_\_\_\_28

Terrorists out

tor Christmas

Patrick Magee, the IRA ter-rorist who nearly killed Mar-garet Thatcher and her Cabinet in the 1984 Brighton

bombing was released from

the Maze prison outside Bel-

fast to spend 10 days with the

woman he married this sum-

mer. Magee was one of 86 republican and 74 loyalist prisoners let out \_\_\_\_\_ Page 2

The Times

The Times will not be published on Christmas Day but will appear as usual on Box-

ing Day. We wish readers a

happy Christmas.



A gift for the Prince at a Bristol cancer centre

among men, the workingclass- and 18-to-54 year olds than the Prince:

she is doing her job with a fifth, 21 per cent, dissatisfied. Approval of the Queen rises with age, from 58 per cent among 18-to-24 year olds to 83 per cent among pensioners and is higher among middle than working classes, and among Tory than Labour

supporters.

The monarchy retains strong public approval, with only a small minority of republicans. Just 15 per cent think Britain would be better off if the monarchy were abolished, while 55 per cent saying it would be worse off, and 27 per cent thinking it would make no difference. This represents a small swing

The net balance believing that Britain would be worse off if the monarchy was abolished is now higher than over the past four years, though it is lower than during the late 1980s before all the controversy started over the break-up of the marriages of Prince Charles and Prince Andrew.

There are sharp contrasts in attitudes to the monarchy among various social groups. The largest number believing that Britain would be better off if the monarchy were abolished are in Wales (27 per cent), among the unemployed (25 per cent) and readers of The Guardian (32 per cent) and The Independent (26 per cent). Readers of tabloid papers are, in general, more supportive of the monarchy

than the average.
Satisfaction with the way
Prince Charles is doing his job as Prince of Wales is highest among readers of the Daily Telegraph (72 per cent), The Times and Daily Mail (69 per cent), Daily Express (68 per cent) and Sun (64 per cent).

Harry will travel to Sandringham today to join the rest of the Royal Family for their first Christmas without their mother. After church and lunch the family will gather round the television to watch the Queen's Christmas broadcast in which she is expected to pay a warm and generous tribute to Princess Diana.

MORI interviewed 2,122 adults on December 12 to 15 at 169 sampling points across



### Geoffrey Boycott becomes star of the East

By TUNKU VARADARAJAN

MILLIONS of young boys in India have become devoted followers of a strange cult, speaking a language they barely understand, crying out words of devotion such as lazy booger." The subcontinent has a new icon, and his

name is Geoffrey Boycott. The flat tones of the former England opening batsman may not have won him much of a youth following in his homeland but his international cricket commentaries on the Star TV system have made him an object of wonder in

So great is the addiction to Boycott, 57, that one group of schoolboys were given six of criticised an umprire's deci-

the best by their headmaster for speaking at all times in their version of the Yorkshire accent. Their favourite word was "roobish" - used by

or an inept delivery. The key to his popularity Indian viewers, accustomed stilted commentators whose language veers between the ornate and the longwinded, enjoy his devil-maycare independence. He uses words such as mad. crazy,

Boycott to describe a bad shot

"My moom could have hit that for six with a toothbroosh." A roar of laughter could be heard across India when he

silly, stupid and pathetic. "That's daft creek-it," he says.

out, then I'm a Pakistani. Test and one-day matches

are watched in every home where there is a television set, and Boycott's popularity is growing among the older generation. When it is Boyeven Indian "mooms" come out of the kitchen. Not since Rex Harrison took India by storm in My Fair Lady has an Englishman's accent been as widely imitated.

It was not always thus, of course. There was a time when Boycott was virtually persona non grata in India. He flounced out of England's tour of 1981-2 (when the two teams played one of the dreariest Test series of the

modern age) claiming that he

golf course days after his departure, giving rise to the reasonable conjecture that his iliness had been a cover for his subsequent South African rebel excursion. Yet Indians have n

shireman has gone out of his way to learn something about Indian popular culture. To the astonishment of

millions this month, he infused his commentary during the India-Sri Lanka series with numerous references to Daler Mehndi, a Sikh singer who currently tops the charts. "I like that Dollar Mendy and his foony-coolered turbans," Boycott told an astonished audience. "Aye, and he sings soom great funes."



Boycott: an icon for today's young Indians

#### The great Ty & RADIO ......34, 35 WEATHER \_\_\_ getaway CROSSWORDS..... 18, 36 LETTERS 15 holiday OBITUARIES 17 BRITONS take to the road. SIMON JENKINS ...... 14

rail and skies in their droves today for the Christmas exodus, with a record 650,000 people choosing to spend the estive season abroad.

The scale of the getaway pales in comparison with Ire-land where a third of the 3.5 million population was estimated to be on the move either yesterday or today — many to join relatives in Britain. In Britain most holiday-makers have opted for the

Canary Islands, mainland Spain and Portugal while the most popular long-haul desti-nations are Florida, Goa and the Caribbean. Forecasters predict that for

those who stay behind Britain will be mild with rain or showers. Boxing Day is expected to brighter and fresher.

Forecast, page 18

### Schools may experiment with a five-term year

By David Charter, education correspondent

SCHOOLS are being asked to rum a five-term year to find out if it improves pupils atten-

dance and results.

The Local Government Association will write to local education authorities next week asking for volunteers to reorganise the traditional three-term pattern for the school calendar.

A five-term year would run on eight-week terms with twoweek holidays in between, but retain a six-week summer holiday in July and August. The plan is less ambitious than that proposed by Margaret Hodge, MP, chairman of the Select Committee on Education and Employment, who suggested shortening the six-week summer break

Ivor Widdison, education policy officer at the Local

Government Association, said that a consultation of schools, parents and holiday resorts six

years ago on a four-term year was split 50-50. Mr Widdison added: "Fiveterm years would allow a more consistent pattern for school examinations and would stop the 'end of term' ethos, which is often unproductive for children.

"We realise this is a radical proposal and that the education system has been through a lot of changes recently, but we hope that some local authorities, with the support of schools, parents and the local community, including em-ployers, will agree to start a

A five-term approach has been adopted at some of the 15 City Technology Colleges, the

state-funded "centres of excellence" set up to revive results

in deprived areas. Graham Lane, chairman of the Local Government Association education committee, said: "Where the five-term year has been introduced, it has been particularly popular with students and parents."

Margaret Morrissey, spokesman for the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations, said the issue divided parents. She said: "A significant number of parents work and they are in favour of change because they feel it would be easier to get their children looked after.

"But we do feel that it is for the parents to decide and it is a good opportunity for local government and parents and



#### High-fat diet may cut strokes

American specialists today report that a high-fat diet reduces the risk of stroke.For each 3 per cent increase in fat as a proportion of total energy, there is a 15 per cent fall in the risk of stroke.

The report suggests that the advice which has given for decades by charities and public health experts may actually be increasing the number of

## Comedian's wife gives kidney to daughter

THE daughter of the comedian Jasper Carrott was recovering in hospital last night after receiving a kidney from her

Carrott's wife Hazel gave the kidney to their daughter Lucy, 24, who plays The Archers character Hayley Jordan, during an operation at Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital nine days ago. They were booked into the hospital under their real family name

Miss Davis has suffered a history of renal illness over the last three years and it is understood that because of a shortage of donors it was eventually decided that her mother should give

one of her kidneys. She followed her father, real name Bob Davis, into showbusiness and



Jasper Carrott and Lucy, who now has one of her mother's kidneys

ago with a part in Pride and Prejudice. Jasper Carrott issued a statementlast night saying: This is a private family affair. The family is very happy and I hope that with the new code of



made her television debut three years conduct for journalists the press will be private.

sympathetic to our situation and allow my wife and daughter to recuperate in

A hospital spokeswoman said last night that the operation had been a

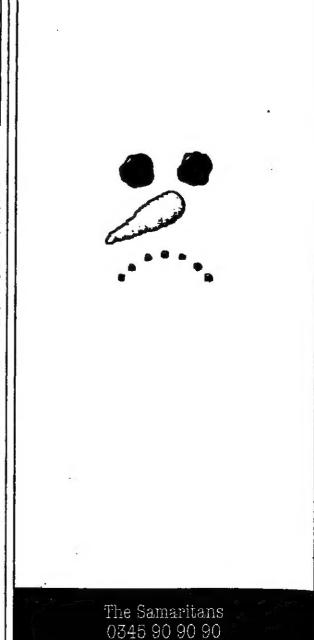
success and both mother and daughter

are recovering well". The Birmingham-born comedian voted both ITV and BBC personality of the year in 1994 - and his wife have three other children: Janny, 20, Han-

nah, 18 and Jake, 15. His agent Steve Hutt said last night: "It is a private family matter. Jasper's been under a lot of pressure recently and the family doesn't want any

publicity." Advancement in the use of antirejection drugs means that Miss Davis is unlikely to suffer a relapse after an operation that took several hours, Because of the shortage of "dead donors" it has become increasingly common for one family member to donate a kidney to another.

Mrs Davis is expected to be able to lead a normal life with one kidney.



## India debacle prompts Cook to seek rethink of royal trips



CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

AN OVERHAUL of royal state visits is being planned by the . Government after the Queen's disastrous tour of Pakistan and India

The Foreign Secretary, who accompanied the Queen, has demanded a rethink to avoid a repetition of the debacle when the Indians dis-missed Britain as a "third-rate, power". Robin Cook has now insisted that he be accompanied by his own senior media adviser from the Foreign Office on any future visit, so that the "heavy-hitter" can counter any damaging stories from the royal

stories if necessary.

Mr Cook has also asked for the Foreign Office to be more involved in the advance planning of royal state visits and to ensure that their focus is on the future rather than the past. The Foreign Secretary is said to have felt frustrated that the Indian tour, during the 50th anniversary of India's independence. harked back to the days of the Empire, rather than looking to build trade relations, Mr Cook had many meetings with business leaders to try to bang the drum for British exports but none was reported by the British media. He hopes in approach to state visits with less emphasis on imperial heritage. Foreign Office officials are already meticulously preparing for the Queen's state visit to Malaysia next September to attend the Commonwealth Games, when she will be again accompanied by Mr Cook

The Foreign Secretary is anxious that the new arrangements should be introduced by then. He will seek to avoid any obvious pitfalls such as mention of the Pergau Dam affair, which damaged relations between the two countries for several months

Although relations have improved between the two countries since then they are still not good.

Robin Cook is said to have annoyed Mahathir Mohamad, the Malaystan Printe Minister, with remarks about forman rights during a recent tour of southeast Asia.

On this year's trip to the subcontinent, Mr Cook was unprepared when the Pakistani press published reports about a private meeting between himself and Nawaz Sharif, the Pakistani Foreign Minister. Reports suggesting that Mr Cook half suggested Britain could intervene to help find a "just solution" to the dispute over Kashmir infuriated the Indians and overshadowed the rest of the Queen's tour. Although Mr Cook demed that he had made any public comments about the brief British journalists.

Matters worsened after a speech by the Queen in Islamabad when she called on Pakistan and India to settle their "historical" differences over Kashmir. Officials travelling with the Oueen said she had acted on her Government's advice.

When the Queen reached India, a row broke out about whether she would be allowed to make a second big speech after the one in Delhi. In the end she made a few comments at the second event in Madras.

There was also concern from some Palace officials that the Queen had not received the admiration accorded to her in the past. Foreign

ever, that a trip to Amritsar, which was expected to be one of the diplomatic troublespots, proved to be a great success but was not reported. Mr Cook had apparently queried the decision to visit Pakistan first, where sensitive issues were bound to be raised, and then India, but was told this was the way it had been done during the last royal visit. At the end of the tour he also questioned the wisdom of arranging a visit to India during the year it was relebrating its independence; he blamed the Conservatives for hav-

Leading article, page 15

## Bomber Magee heads terrorists on 10-day leave

terrorist who nearly killed Margaret Thatcher and her Cabinet in the 1984 Brighton bombing, was released from the Maze prison outside Belfast yesterday to spend 10 days with the woman he quietly married this summer.

Magee, who was sentenced to 35 years for bombing the Grand Hotel in Brighton during the Conservative Party conference, married 31-yearold American novelist Barba-

ra Byer in August. Magee, branded "a man of exceptional cruelty and inhumanity" by the judge who handed him eight life sentences, walked out of the Maze just after noon.

A stocky, bearded figure, he kept his head down and said nothing as television crews pursued him to a red Peugeon where a tali, slim, red-haired woman dressed in a black leather coat was waiting for

him. She also remained silent. They drove away at speed from the prison car park towards the republican stronghold of West Belfast.

Those who know Magee say his militant republicanism has not mellowed during his !1 years behind bars. He is studying novels about the "Troubles" for a PhD, and is said to have developed a relationship with Ms Byer, who comes from Connecticut, married in a ceremony at the Maze in August, attended by about 25 relatives and fellow inmates. It was Magee's secand marriage and his new wife has now moved to Belfast to be near him. Magee, aged 46, was one of 86 republican

TONY BLAIR interrupted his

Christmas break at Chequers

vesterday to defend his plans

to reform the welfare state, as

protests continued from Lab-

our MPs and disabled campaigners. The Archbishop of Canterbury Dr George Carey

also entered the controversy

with a warning to the Govern-

ment not to target the vulnera-

The Prime Minister chose to

lead the fightback with a

series of television and radio

interviews at the Bernard

Arms, the public house closest

to his country residence. But

the offensive was overshadowed when Malcolm Chis-

holm, who resigned as a Scottish Office Minister in

protest at the cut in benefit to

lone parents, said the Govern-

ment had lost public trust.
The problem has arisen

because of the catastrophic

ble and the poor.

Martin Fletcher

reports as 160 inmates are let out for Christmas

family holidays

and 74 loyalist prisoners let out for Christmas leave yesterday, but not the only one for whom the next 10 days will be

a de facto honeymoon.

Paul Kavanagh, one of the 1987 Cheisea Barracks bombers, was freed from the Maze, and his wife, Martina Anderson, jailed for her part in the IRA's 1985 bombing campaign against English seaside resorts, was released from the Maghaberry prison in County Antrim. They exchanged vows in May, 1989, at a ceremony in Full Sutton prison, near York, but have had little or no chance before now to

consumate their marriage. The releases began shortly before 9.00 am. Prisoners from republican H-blocks and loyalist H-blocks were let out alternately, and with long gaps in between so they did not meet outside. It was early alternoon before the process

was completed. Beyond the high wire fence, wives and children waited patiently in the car park beneath a leaden sky. Some cheered as their men were let out, others made do with a quick kiss, and then they were off - the released immates clutching brown paper bags

error we made in cutting lone parents' benefits," he said on

Radio 4's PM programme.

"We have betrayed our princi-

ples. That is why we have lost the trust of the British people

on welfare reform."

By ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Sinead Walsh's husband was jailed nine years ago for possessing explosives, and this was his first Christmas leave. It was also the first time her nîne-year-old daughter, Mairead, has seen her father outside a visiting room and

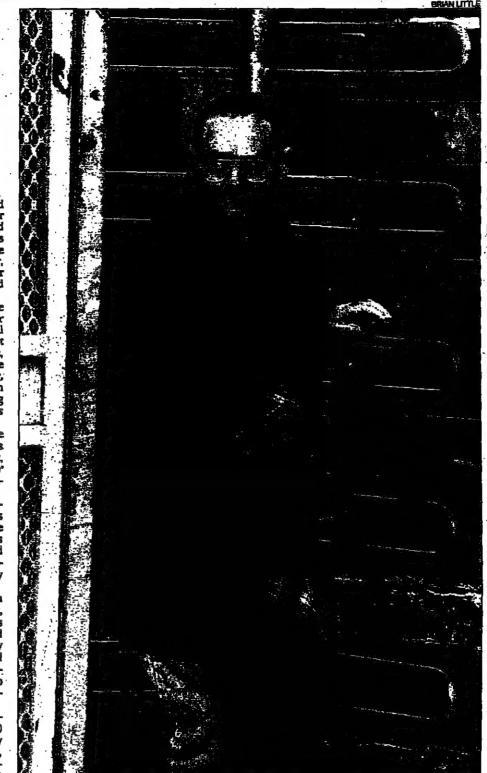
her excitement was obvious. Separately, the Progressive Unionist Party and the Ulster Democratic Party, the political wings of the main loyalist paramilitary organisations, have met Mo Mowlam, the Northern leland Secretary, over the past two days to warn of their members' collapsing confidence in a peace process they consider one-sided.

The release of terrorists like Magee, Kavanagh and his accomplice, Thomas Quigley, have enraged their victims' families, and Tory and Union-

But Northern Ireland's prison service argues that its unique, long-running home leave schemes help immates maintain family links and reduce the chances of them reoffending when eventually

Adam Ingram, Northern Ireland's security minister, sympathised with the distress of terrorist victims, but said the schemes were "probably the most valued and respected privileges available to prisoners here and contribute in no ☐ The Irish government yes-

terday gave 10 IRA convicts 10 days Christmas leave. They included Thomas McMahon, who assassinated Earl Mountbatten of Burma in 1979 but has since left the IRA.



Patrick Magee, the Brighton Bomber, leaving the Maze Prison yesterday

### Welfare row eats | Family despairs | Peers face quick into Blair holiday of finding bodies

BY PAUL WILKINSON AND STEPHEN FARRELL

MEMBERS of the British family who lost three generations in the Luxor massacre have given up hope of finding the body of Karina Turner before the new year.
It has been more than five weeks since Miss Turner, 24,

Mr Blair repeatedly declined to say whether the shake-up would produce losher five-year-old daughter Shaunnah, and her mother ers, but added that disabled Joan Turner, 53, were killed in the terrorist attack. No date people with genuine needs had nothing to fear. "My idea of benefit reform and welfare has been fixed for their reform is not to take away help The service at their local from those who genuinely

need it." Dr Carey said that he understood the logic behind the review, but said that the Government had to strike a delicate balance between modernising the system and protecting

Family holiday, page 6 | Swiss woman sent to Zurich.

But police and Foreign Office officials are still trying to trace Karina Turner's body, amid fears that it may already have been buried or cremated abroad. They are also trying to establish the identity of the body wrongly named as hers, which is still in Halifax.

Ken Robertshaw, Joan Turner's nephew, an inspector with West Yorkshire Police, said: "We are just sitting and waiting, there is nothing more we can do. We are totally in the hands of the various church in Ripponden, West Yorkshire, was cancelled at

short notice a month ago when it was discovered that the body in Joan's Turner's coffin was not hers. Days later it was revealed that her daughter's body was also missing. Joan Turner's body has since been returned from Swit-

government agencies."

The son of two other Luxor victims has called on the Foreign Office to overhaul its procedures after being charged £180 for his parents death certificates. Officials backed down after Paul Wigham complained. His parzerland and the body of a ents, George and Ivy, of Swanley, Kent, were killed.

## reform of Lords

By Andrew Pierce, political correspondent

HEREDITARY peers could be stripped of their voting rights as early as 1999, the Lord

as early as 1999, the Loro
Chancellor predicted yesterday, with legislation in the
next Queen's Speech.
Lord Irvine of Lairg, who in
the new year will chair the
Cabinet committee that will pave the way for the changes, held out the prospect of direct elections to a reformed second chamber to avoid the creation of "the biggest quango in the nation's history".

The Tories have claimed that Mr Blair plans to replace: the hereditary peers with hun-dreds of Labour life peers in a huge extension of prime ministerial patronage.
But Lord Irvine said his

committee would look at all options — a fully nominated, fully elected chamber, or a mix. Of a nominated chamber he said: "I think that it would be important to avoid the nerception of the biggest quango in our nation's history." Viscount Cranborne, the

Tory Leader of the Lords, challenged Lord Irvine to re-place simultaneously the hereditary peers with an elected But Lord Irvine said: "It would be very important to en-

sure, if the nominated option prevailed, it was perceived not as a big quango but as a house of all the talents of the nation and fairly appointed."
The Lord Chancellor, who is one of Tony Blair's closest allies, said he could not make

a commitment that there would be legislation in the next parliamentary session, which starts next November. "But there is every likelihood that there will be legislation on the Statute Book, "he told BBC Radio 4's Today programme

#### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

ing set the date.

#### Dome spectacular is abandoned

The spectacular show being devised by Slr Cameron Mackintosh for the Millennium Dome has been scrapped along with plans to build a 12,000-seat auditorium in the centre of the dome. Sir Cameron's show would have involved 2,000 children on stage for two performances a day, but he will now be the creative adviser for a scaled-down show. A piazza visible from all corners of the dome will replace the theatre.

The New Millennium Experience said last night that the cost of the theatre, and the possibility of using the money instead for developing other exhibits, had been minor considerations. The main reasons for abandoning the auditorium had been logistical: moving people in and out between shows would have been very slow, involving long

Sir Cameron said that he was disappointed, but also felt a tinge of relief. "I am delightfully free of an extraordinary reponsibility which was giving me sleepless nights. Now I can retire to my croft in Scotland for Hogmanay in 1999."

#### Cheer for homeless

The country's largest Christmas centre for the homeless opened its doors yesterday afternoon. Over the coming week an estimated 2,000 people will be provided with a bed, food, clothes and warmth, as well as a full Christmas meal and health checks, inside the warehouse in Bermondsey, south London. The building, owned by the BBC, normally stores millions of copies of Radio Times. It is the biggest of 35 centres being run throughout the country by Crisis, the

#### Illegal migrants held

After a two-hour chase police detained two dozen illegal immigrants from five countries who jumped out of the back of a lorry near Maidstone, Kent, yesterday, Roadblocks were set up and a light aircraft used to track the suspects as they ran off across fields. It is thought the 22 men and two women broke into the lorry when it was parked in Belgium. Stuart Dietrich watched the immigrants jump out. "It was just like a scene from The Great Escape," he said. "They just caree pouring out, one after another, and sprinted off.

#### Lies and statistics

Even before Jack the Ripper stalked the streets of London in Dr Howard Taylor, of the University of Nottingham, says that Victorian police statistics tend to be constant because the number of prosecutions was budgeted for and rationed in advance. Crimes were kept to an average of 90,000 a year with many more conveniently "lost" and for 86 years bureaucrats "rationed" murders to 150 a year.

#### Briton allowed home

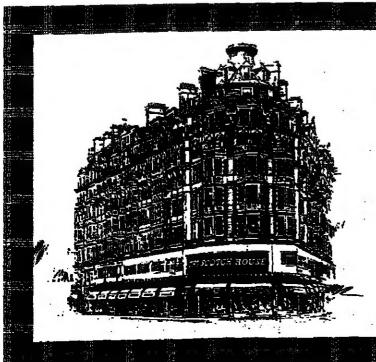
A woman facing up to 25 years in jail for alleged multimillion-pound fraud in Kenya has been allowed home to Britain for Christmas, Kerry Page, 28, of Cleckheaton, west Yorkshire, was allowed to leave Kenya on compassionate grounds, but has been told she most return for her trial in the new year. She has been on bail following her arrest on charges of handling stolen goods and theft arising from the refugee crisis in Somalia three years ago. She said: "I am

#### NFU chief quits over beef

The chief executive of the National Farmers' Union of Scotland has resigned after criticism of the union's actions over the beef crisis. In a personal statement Tom Brady said he could not bring himself to change the advice given to his former president Sandy Mole. "It had become clear that the advice I was giving to the president was out of line with the mood of the majority of the members of the Scottish NFU," Mr Brady said. Mr Brady insisted there was "no acrimony"

#### Young Turk weds again

A Turkish waiter who married a 13-year-old British girl after meeting her while she was on holiday has married again, this time to a Muslim woman in a traditional Islamic ceremony. Musa Komeagac, 21, was fined the equivalent of to Sarah Cook. She subsequently gave birth to a baby boy after meeting the waiter on a family holiday in Turkey. She was made a ward of court in Britain and returned home in



## SALE

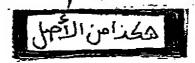
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## Failing director learnt to fly for dramatic suicide

A happy mood, a hug, then 2,000ft plunge into sea.

Paul Whittaker reports on how one man chose to die

A COMPANY director on the brink of financial ruin learned how to fly so that he could kill himself dramatically. As soon as Terence Brand was allowed to fly solo, he took a light aircraft to 2,000ft over Dorset and plunged straight into the

()Val trips

Mr Brand, 45, who had recently converted to Buddhism, left a suicide note saying: "My sole intention from learning to fly was to move on in one dramatic moment. It is my destiny, my right, my karma." He quoted a Buddhist poem: "Freedom, as free as a bird, takes my breath away, the divine wind

The hotelier, who also ran a Japanese consultancy firm. was a former newspaper executive, a former British judo champion, and had three children. He added: "I have lived a spectacular, successful, exciting and, apart from two or three blips, a happy life. Within 10 years my looks, my prowess, my will to succeed and love of life will further

An inquest in Bournemouth heard yesterday that he had begun taking flying lessons three months before his death. His main instructor, Peter Piers-Johnson, said that his student tried to offer "incentives" to get through the training more quickly. He was said to be "extremely keen" to fly solo.

Another instructor, Barry Hurst, said that Mr Brand appeared in high spirits at Bournemouth International Airport in Hurn on the day of the crash.

"My initial reaction was perhaps it was the excitment of a first solo flight." Mr Brand had insisted on hugging the club's operation coordinator, June Vickers, before take-off," he said.

The chief flying instructor, John Mummery, who circled the airfield with Mr Brand before he took the controls alone, said he had told Mr Brand to make one circuit only. He was surprised to see his student taking off for a second time.

However, he said: "I was not unduly worried. I thought he had misunderstood the landing instructions."

He watched as the £70,000 Piper PA 28 aircraft, owned by the flying club, climbed to 2,000ft, circled the airport and then disappeared out of view. He said: "Air traffic control were trying to contact him and establish why he had taken off a second time.

"At some stage I overheard his radio call saying. 'Give my apologies to everyone'. He did not reply to further transmissions."

Mr Brand ditched in the sea a mile off Boscombe Pier on November 6. His will was found in a briefcase under a desk at the airfield, and a note written on the day of his death was found at Mr Brand's home in Charminster, Dorset. He spoke of two broken

marriages, a failed love affair and a financial mess. To whoever reads this, I'm so sorry to have left in this way,"

he wrote.
"Please give my apologies to all those who care. I have been trying to go for some time.



Terence Brand: suicide. selfish, said coroner

learning to fly was to move on in one dramatic moment. My actions are premeditated and calculated. The only thing is, I would like to have a couple

more days to sort things out.
The primary object for my training to be a pilot is so I can prepare myself, giving suffi-cient courage, determination and focus that I will be able to

"I'm not sad, I'm not depressed, nor should those who are close to me be so. It is the right thing for me to do. It is my destiny, my right, my karma. I have lived a speciacular, successful, exciting and. apart from two or three blips. a happy life.
The truth is I have gotten

myself into a financial mess. There is an old Japanese proverb, those who ask three times', which translates as There are limits to one's endurance'. It's better that I go now."

The inquest was told how Mr Brand, who owned the Arundale Hotel in Bournemouth, and had once been chief executive of the town's Weekly Post newspaper, had become increasingly interested in the East. He had become a Buddhist,

set up a Japanese consultancy firm called Nichi-ei, learned Japanese and had a Far Eastem girlfriend.

The inquest heard that he had tried to set himself two deadlines for his solo debut: the first was on his birthday. and the second was on the day that his Korean girlfriend was due to travel home, leaving him behind. Recording a suicide verdict,

the Dorset coroner, Nigel Nev-ille-Jones, said: "It is clear to me that the manner in which Mr Brand took his own life was a bizarre, cool, selfish and calculated act. As a result of this, a valuable light aircraft was crashed into the sea. "Being a Buddhist, I suspect

there was serenity in this final



A BABY boy has been abandoned at a council office after a woman walked in with a pushchair and told staff: "I've had enough — I can't cope." The child, thought to be about four mouths old, has been named Noel. Last night he was in the care of Plymouth City Conneil's social services department (Simon de Bruxelles writes).

عكذاءن زلإمل

Inspector David Evans, of Devon and Cornwall Police, said that Noel, above, had been abandoned two days before Christmas by a woman in her twenties with shoulder-length dark hair. "We are very worried about the woman's state of mind,"

### Hunt for mother of abandoned baby Noel

he said. "Our first objective is to contact her and get her the help and support she needs. Abandoning a child is a criminal offence but no one's

thinking about that now. "Baby Noel has been well cared for, he is well fed and some of his dothes seem to

have been hand-knitted. We are hoping a relative will recognise one of these gar-ments and come forward. He is a lovely baby and all the policemen and women have been cooing over him.

We thought about calling him Nicholas or Chris. but Noel just seemed right."

A spokesman for Plymouth City Council said: "The young lady walked in pushing a pushchair. She walked up to the cashier's desk and said something along the lines of: T've had enough, I can't cope. She then told us to get in touch with a man who she named, then ran off. She was in a very distressed state."

### University was mean, judge tells employee who stole

By A CURRESPONDENT

A FORMER England lacrosse international who cheated a university out of £65,000 was yesterday jailed for 18 months. But the judge who jailed Ann Hutchings hranded Reading University as "mean" after hearing that she was given a salary less than half of what people in similiar posts at other universities received. Hutchings, 44, of Bramley, Hampshire, who was director of sports and recreation at the university's Wolfenden Sports Centre, turned to her family in the gallery at Reading Crown Court and said calmly. "I love

you" as she was led away. She admitted 17 counts of traud and theft involving a total of £65,000. She had tricked outsiders into making cheques, meant for the universio , payable to herself. Putrick Mullen, for the pros-

ecution, said that Hutchings told her employers that other recreation heads were paid up to two-and-a-half times her salary, "It is clear that she felt she was effectively being paid a pretty paltry salary for the responsibilities she discharged and for the way she had discharged them."

Mr Mullen said that cheques covering the cost of training Japanese students in sports activities had been made payable to Hutchings on her own orders. She received the cheques, worth up to £3,000 each, from the Gyosei International College in Reading between November 1992 and March 1996. He said that Hutchings had asked that envelopes with cheques be marked "private and confidential".

Judge Stanley Spence told Hutchings: "It appears you were shamefully underpaid by the university and I accept that this provided strong motivation for your dishonesty.

"I may fairly describe the attitude of Reading University as mean in refusing to acknowledge with fair remuneration work by you in providing increasing profits."

Earlier the court heard that Hutchings had begun her job on a salary of £14,825 while other sports directors received more than £30,000.

### Street scoops eleventh honey award

BY ROBIN YOUNG

FORGET exotica such as orange blossom. Hymettus and acacia. For worldbeating honey, one need look no further than Woodyates Road in Lecsoutheast London.

The street's latest success has been clinched by ten-year-old Vanessa Hearn, whose honey was judged best in the world at the National Honey Show. Vanessa's honey beat that of producers from as far afield as Trinidad. India and Sardinia.

It is the third time in the last four years that a beekeeper from Woodvates Road has won the National Honey Show's international prize three times. In the last seven years, no fewer than II first prizes in other honeymaking competitions have gone to mantelpieces in the otherwise regular suburban street.

Five doors from Vanessa's home. Vera Grundv. 62, has been a world champion twice and another Woodyates Road resident Eddie Freeman. won in 1991 and 1994. Mr. Freeman, who died recently, was joined in prizewinning prowess in the last two years by his protege and neighbour. Gary Hearn.

Vanessa admitted: "1 was pretty surprised to win best in the world. I think I just have a good hive of bees, and a very good Queen who must make them all work very hard. Our street is near a railway embankment which is covered in wildflowers and stinging nettles and all our neighbours have gardens with lots of flowers, apple trees. plum trees and lime trees."

Peter Springfield, the National Honey Show su-pervisor, said the success of Woodyates Road was unrivalled. "It's the bees you have the pollen you get and how dedicated you are to details that make good honey." he said.

## Uniform adverts | Man held over pay for teachers

By PAUL WILKINSON

PARENTS are offering advertising space on their children's school uniforms in return for cash to pay for a teacher.

Long-term staff illness at the 225-pupil South Parade Infants School in Grimsby, Lincoinshire, means there are just two teachers for the 72 six and seven-year-olds in Year Two. Both the headmaster and another senior teacher are on sick leave and there is no spare money in the school budget to ) pay for temporary replace-ments. The children, who take their first national curriculum tests next year, are currently crammed into two classes of

36 instead of three of 24. Now parents hope to raise El4,000 to pay the salary of an extra teacher by offering companies a place for logos on their children's schoolwear.

Evie Harrison, the acting headteacher, has given the fundraising drive her support. She said: Parents have notified us of their intention to begin a campaign to assist our school and the staff commend them for their efforts. All funds raised by them would, of course, be used entirely for the benefit of the children." Sue Kelk, one of the parents.

said: "We have already ap-proached companies including Kimberly Clark and Courtaulds and have now got a hundred letters waiting to be distributed locally."

She said the loss of one teacher could deal a major blow to the children's prospects. "This could not have happened at a worse time for them," she said. "They have only just started to gain confidence in their own reading and writing abilities. If they fall behind now and lose that confidence, they may never fully regain it." Another parent, Pamela Cross, has written to Tony

Blair in protest. She told him: "Our argument is with the system, if it means that because senior staff are on sick pay for long periods of time. the children are going to suffer."

However, Geoff Hill, head of education at North East Lincolnshire Council, had reservations about the idea. He said: "This scheme is not illegal and it is a very wellintentioned idea, but in my view it may be a little inappropriate for children as young as six to carry advertising."

## 'Marcos gold'

By Paul Whittaker and Stewart Tendler

AN AUSTRALIAN who claimed to control £4 billion looted by the late Ferdinand Marcos, the ousted president of the Philippines, has been arrested for trying to defraud a London bank.

Police in Melbourne confirmed yesterday that a 47year-old man had been bailed after being charged with attempting to defraud N.M. Rothschild in London. The man may face further charges.

A joint operation involving the Victoria police in Australia and the City of London force began after Rothschilds were rung by a caller offering a bearer certificate for gold worth £1 million. The bank was immediately suspicious and contacted police because individuals do not normally trade in bullion.

The City force began tracing the call and then passed information to the Australian force. They raided a house and found the man as well as a large number of certificates. No other London banks had been approached when police

Acting Detective Chief In-spector Jeff Calderbank of Melbourne's major fraud

the coffers of Ferdinand Marcos. He said the size of the scam would have been "beyond comprehension".

A spokesman for schilds said the call from Australia had been unsolicited, which immediately put staff on their guard. The caller did not mention the Marcos fortune but the bank was worried by the call.

Ever since Marcos's death in 1989 the hunt for his millions has inspired treasurehunters and fraudsters alike. In 1995 a former CIA agent living in Australia told a court that US intelligence agencies had tried to sabotage his hid to recover the missing Marcos

Reiner Jacobi, 53, who to Australia in 1987, successover an alleged conspiracy.

group said yesterday that the man had alleged that the gold to be traded was bullion from

worked freelance for the CIA and US Customs before going fully staved off US govern-ment attempts to extradite him Reiner told the court that he

had traced \$15 billion, thought to be part of the missing Marcos fortune, to Swiss bank

### Crackers? Pull the other one David Charter on what the Queen will get with her paper crown

THE JOKES in the Queen's Christmas crackers are just as awful as those enjoyed by the rest of her subjects, The Times can disclose

Sandringham has its own specially prepared crackers but, as a selection of jokes destined for the Royal Household shows, the puns are punier than ever.

That is despite a new range of riddles chosen by the royal cracker makers Tom Smith Ltd to mark the 150th anniversary of the invention of the festive table decoration by the Norwich

No concessions are made for royal sensibilities in their crackers, which come complete with novelties such as perfume and pottery animals, cringeworthy one-liners and even paper crowns. Those on the Royal Family's table come from Tom Smith's iop of the range "Santa Claus" selection, which sell for £30 for ten in supermarkets. Example I: What kind of fish do you

find in a birdcage? A perch!

Example 2: What's musical and handy in a supermarket? A Chopin

Digby Burnell, chairman of Tom Smith, said: There is no difference between what the Royal Family and the public get. That's a very important point for us. The jokes are so awful you have got to share them with

The company has held a Queen's royal warrant since 1964 and a warrant for Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother since 1975.

Cracker mottoes have evolved from love poems of the last century, such as: Sunshine, happiness and laughter Be yours now and ever after

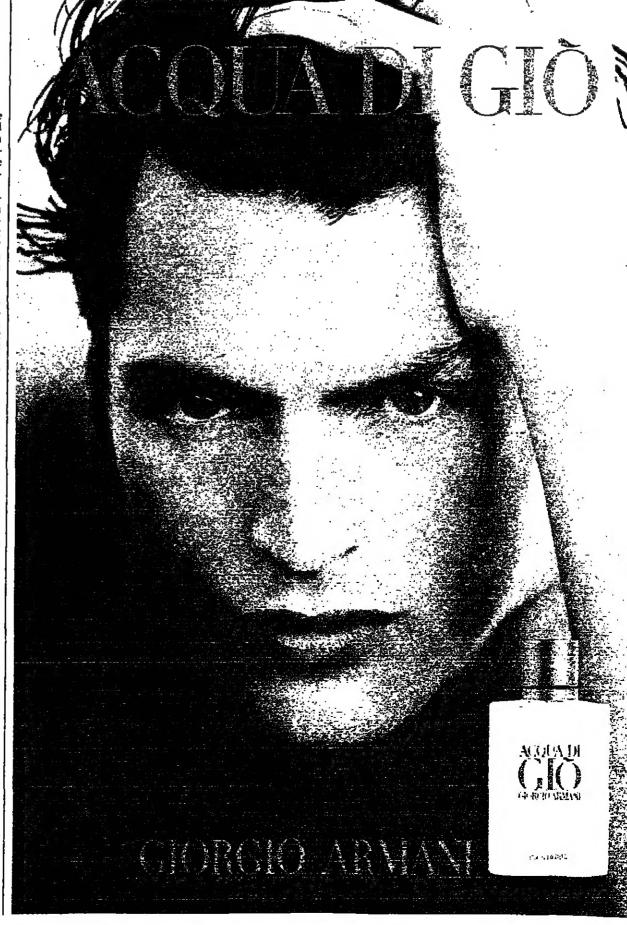
By the 1930s, they had developed into limericks such as:

There was once a woman called Mrs Who said "I don't know what a Krs" But a fellow in haste Put his arm round her waist And quietly answered "Why Thrs".

By the 1970s the groan factor was well and truly established, with riddles like: Why does a poor man have to drink coffee? Because he has no property (proper tea).

A spokeswoman at Buckingham

Palace said the Queen and the Royal Family much appreciated the royal crackers. "Royal warrants are only given to companies which regularly provide things for the Royal Family. who do enjoy their crackers, whether the bang, the hat, the jokes or the novelties, but I could not say in which order of preference."



SIX junior doctors were introduced yesterday as Dopey. Sleepy. Sneezy. Grumpy. Bashful, and Happy to illustrate the dangers of working too many hours in spite of an agreement to limit their shifts. One junior doctor in five is still forced to work excessive

hours, the British Medical Association said. Patients continued to be at risk.

Among the junior doctor "dwarves", only Happy. Jona-than Fielden, an anaesthetist at Southampton University NHS Trust, felt conditions were improving for them. The NHS is beginning to realise that tired doctors are not good for patients," he said.

The other "dwarves" emphasixed the dangers of overwork. such as exhaustion, a short temper, lapses of concentration and working while sick.

The association's junior doctors' committee said that more than 5,000 were working excessive hours. Under the agreement that came into full effect a year ago, junior doctors should not be on duty for more than 72 hours a week or work with patients for more than 56 hours, except in exceprional circumstances. Mark Porter, chairman of



Mark Porter, chairman of the BMA junior doctors' committee, unveils his six junior doctor "dwarves" yesterday to demonstrate the dangers of excessive working hours

the committee, said a failure to enforce the new regulations was putting lives at risk. There is the potential for compromise on patient salety." he said. "A New England Journal of Medicine study showed long periods without sleep could impair motor func-

tions to the same extent as ister with responsibility for 70 mg of alcohol, just less than the drink-drive limit. A fired junior doctor is similar to someone who might have been driving down the road after a Christmas party." Dr Porter wrote yesterday to

junior doctors, to ask that the new deal be enforced through regional task forces with the power to order NHS trusts to cut excessive hours. Dr Porter, an anaesthetist at

Birmingham Heartlands Hos-

and unveiled the other doctor "dwarves".

Sleepy - Huw Jones, also an anaesthetist at Birming-ham Heartlands — said he would frequently work after three to four hours of sleep, which was "reasonably good

He would often be woken to perform routine tasks such as taking blood that could properly be done by nursing and

auxiliary staff. Judith Kerr, or Sneezy, a psychiatrist at St Christoer's Hospital, Fareham. Hampshire, said junior doctors were often forced to work when sick. "When I was a house officer on a geriatric ward. I once had acute food poisoning." she said. "There was no one else to take over. I

just had to carry on." Grumpy, surgical house officer Liz Soilleux of Milton

Keynes General Hospital, complained that junior doctors were paid at half rares for overtime instead of the double pay given to other NHS staff. Most people are reticent about claiming for the hours they actually work or trying to change things because they are worried it will have an adverse effect on their career prospects," she said.

Fat

Dr Soilleux's view was echoed by Bashful, a senior house officer in an accident and emergency department who did not want to be identified because he felt ne had been held back by consultants after complaining to the press about hours in the past. Dopey. or Paul Flynn an obstetrician at the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne, said his thought processes "slowed down enormously when he was on a long night shift after little sleep.

Dr Porter said he hoped Mr Milburn would play Snow White rather than be a Wicked Witch and enforce the new hours. Barbara Connah, of the NHS Confederation, which represents all NHS trusts and health authorities, said that most had implemented the new deal. "Trusts have had to take on more junior doctors to

## Scottish parliament building to cost more

HALF PRICE SALE

STARTS BOXING DAY

Alan Milburn, the health min-

THE estimated cost of building a Scottish parliament has risen from £40 million to between £50 and £65 million, the Government confirmed yesterday.

The price tag will depend on which of four shortlisted sites is chosen and on undisclosed additional costs, including architects' fees. VAT and the acquisition of land. Cost is likely to play an important part in the deliberations of Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, who is expected to decide on the winning location during the Christmas break. His decision will be announced before the second reading of the Scotland Bill on January 12. An

international architectural competition will then be opened for the building's design: the parliament building will not be completed until 2001, one year after the Members meet for the first time.

Yesterday the Scottish Office released feasibility studies on all four sites, three of which are in the centre of Edinburgh and one at Leith docklands. As expected, St Andrew's House at Carlton Hill, Scotland's traditional seat of power, emerged as the most expensive option at £65 milfinn because of its status as a Grade A listed building. The three new-build sites, at Leith, a car park at Haymarket, and opposite the Palace of Holyroodhouse on the Royal Mile, were all estimated as

costing £50 million. Apparently, visits to modern parliaments abroad had suggested that the building would have to be larger than had been envisaged.

Yesterday it appeared that Haymarket was trailing in the race to house the parliament. The site opposite Holyroodhouse frontrunner. Mr Dewar would not be drawn on which site he favoured, although he neglected to mention Haymarket as he talked about the pros and cons of each.

The feasibility studies will now form part of a two-week exhibition in Edinburgh and Glasgow of photographs.

SHAKER 40% OFF



### Final can of Spam leaves a bitter taste

By Russell Jenkins

THE last blue and yellow can of Spam rolled off a British conveyor belt yesterday after 40 years and innumerable jokes. The Newforge factory in Liverpool is closing down with the loss of 140 jobs after losing the licence to produce Spam for the Hormel Food Corporation of Minnesota, which is switching European production to Denmark.

Malcolm Johnson, managing director of Newforge, is bitter that the American company decided to withdraw the licence after Newforge achieved profits of £500,000 last year on sales of about £8 million. He said that £1.5 million had been invested in the company over the past 18 months. He said last night: "I will not eat another can of Spam for as long as I live.

"We are closing after a generation of producing Spam, It was done without any discussion whatsoever. We have increased market share significantly, increased profits and increased investment in the plant.

"We are a dedicated Sparn factory, so there is little else we can do," he said. "I will be working throughout Christmas to see if we have any other

Spam, a contraction of shoulder pork and ham, was

first produced in America in 1937. Since then billions of cans of it have been sliced. diced, fried, casseroled and grilled. It was the first luncheon meat that survived moderately fresh without being kept in a refrigerator and has been marketed ever since on its versatility as a food suitable for breakfast, lunch

Cans of Spam were dished out to American soldiers in the war as part of their basic rations. Now distinctly middle-aged, it has not only re-tained its market share but is popular with a new generation of young Americans.

In Britain the combination of shoulder ham, salt, water and sugar has thrived as the butt of jokes. It was immortalised by the Monty Python team in a sketch about the cafe that sells little else. Customers sing: "Wonderful

Spam, Lovely Spam." Spam mania is a recognised phenomenon in America, where lovers of the convenience food flock to its home town of Austin, Minnesota, for regular Sparn fests.

Spam became popular in austerity Britain because it was not subject to rationing. It was imported into this country until 1957, when it was first manufactured on Mersevside.



#### Clue points to murder of mother

Detectives searching for a missing mother-of-two believe she was murdered by her boyfriend, who then committed suicide. A new witness has told police he saw 29-yearold Helen Profitt's boyfriend, Mark Coldrick, dragging an object in a rolled-up rug into the back seat of his car shortly after her disappearance a

The next day Mr Coldrick. 30, blew himself up with a petrol bomb at a disused quarry near their home in Newport Gwent. Police have upgraded the investigation to a murder inquiry.

#### Maiden cruise

The 63,000 tonne superliner Arcadia, which replaces the Canberra, set sail from Southampton on her maiden voyage yesterday for a 12night Christmas cruise which will be followed by a threemonth world cruise in

#### Rural ride alert

Police in Northumberland have clamped down on offroad motorcyclists illegally chuming up the countryside and disturbing quiet villages. In Operation Mud Plug, bileers have been stopped and warned not to continue into rural areas.

Helica .

Aspirin

as new v

again,

#### Presenter banned

The presenter of the Channel 4 programme People's Par-liament, Lesley Riddoch, was banned for a year after admitting drink-driving. Riddoch. 37, of Fowlis Wester by Crieff. Tayside, who drove into a tree, was also fined £400 at Perth Sheriff Court.

#### Rescuer's award

A clergyman who rescued a drowning boy was awarded the Royal Humane Society's certificate of vellum. Canon Bob Fyffe, 41, minister of St John's Episcopal Church. Perth, dived into the River Tay in June and dragged Robert Martin, 11, to safety.

#### Better late

The bookmakers Coral is trying to trace a man who has won £40,000 after placing a £1 accumulator bet on Saturday's football results at a branch in Wisbech, Camb-ridgeshire. He is probably unaware that one of the losing results was declared void.



The last tin of British Spam. 140 jobs will be lost

## Slice of life as Gorbachev overcomes the red squares

BY CAROL MIDGLEY MEDIA CURRENPONDENT

EVERY great world leader likes to leave a monument to his achievements. On New Year's Day, British television viewers will see Mikhail Gorbachev hailed for turning Russia into a land fit for Pizza

It is the first showing of the result of a much-hyped advertising deal. The father of glasnost and perestroika will be seen sitting at a table in the Pizza Hut restaurant in Red Square. Moscow, slicing up a pepperoni pan pizza with his eranddaughter Anastasia, 10.

At another table, an old man says: "It is because of him we have economic confusion." A ounger companion replies: "It is because of him we have opportunity." The old man contests that Gorbachev created political instability, the younger companion insists he brought freedom.

As the argument heats up, an old woman says: "It is because of him we have Pizza Hut." All the customers rise to their feet, wave slices of pizza in the air and shout "Hail to Gorbachev.

Gorbachev, 66, does not speak during the commercial. which has English subtitles.

but merely smiles wryly to the camera. He was paid an estimated £100,000 to appear in it and the fee will go towards a real monument, establishing a permanent home for his Perestroika library and museum in central Moscow.

Gary Haigh, marketing director for Pizza Hut UK, said: "We have a strong heritage of using world-famous personalities in a humorous and lighthearted manner for our commmerciais. We are confident that our latest campaign will bring a smile to people's faces. It should prove one of

When you buy from Magnet, you can be sure that you get beautiful kitchen designed to meet your every need. You can also be sure that it's built to take everything life can throw at it. Right now in the Magnet January Sale, all cabinets in over 50 kitchen and bedroom ranges have been reduced, most by 50%, and there are some great offers on are and Whirlpool appliances too.

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ing house Wedgesday 14th and Thursday 25th closed. Finday 24th most stores will be open 1919 turn-119 from Security 25th or Francis (Appen, Sanday 28th most stores will be open 1919 burn 418 from Discounts are of power charged between 18th honorages and 18th December "When a large at 1200" or times at larghest cabinets

for your nearest showroom and opening hours call 0800 192 192



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TEVE : TEEL

Fatty diet cuts stroke risk, say US doctors BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

They suggest that the advice

which has been drummed home for decades by heart charities and public health

specialists may actually be increasing the number of

The results require confirmation, they say. Nonetheless, the results of this study

raise the possibility that re-striction of fat intake among

residents of Western societies,

as recommended by the US National Cholesterol Educa-

tion Program and others, does

not decrease and could in-

crease overall risk of

Ischaemic stroke is caused

ischaemic stroke."

ity such as paralysis.

is not justified.

The authors con

education programmes."

stroke deaths.

FATTY foods may not be quite vard Medical School and Har-as deadly as doctors have vard Filgrim Health Care, led claimed. In a timely study, by Matthew Gillman. American specialists today re-port that a high-fat diet re-duces the risk of stroke.

For each 3 per cent increase in fat as a proportion of total energy, there is a 15 per cent fall in the risk of stroke, they say. So while a high-fat diet appears to increase the risk of heart disease, it cuts the risk of stroke—a finding that left British stroke experts confused.

The new figures come from the Framingham Heart Study. of residents of Framingham, Massachusetts, aimed at establishing the links between diet and heart disease. They are published in the Journal f the American Medical As-Sociation by a team from Har-

**Scientists** discover a chip for slimmers

By NICK NUTTALL

PEOPLE will soon be able to make virtually fat-free chips and roast potatoes in their own kitchens following a genetic engineering break-through by British scientists. The team, based at Oxford.

University, have devised a way of boosting the starch content of potatoes, which in turn reduces their water content and so their absorption of

fat during cooking.

A spokesman for the government's Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, which has helped fund the research, said yesterday. The lat or oil content of french fries depends largely on the water content of the potato, fat replacing water Potatoes with a higher starch content have less water and so will take up less fat during

frying.

The breakthrough also has important implications in the developing world, where postatoes are a crucial source of the developed coronary heart disease during the follow-up period. Moreover, fat intake was strongly inversely associated with ischaemic stroke inenergy in the diet. The scien- cidence among those who did tists hope to apply the same not develop coronary heart disgenetic engineering process to ease in the follow-up period." other key crops.

The discovery was made by tion said it was surprised by chance by a team led by. Oxford's Professor Chris Leaver and Dr Steve Hill, who were researching the way plants breathe.

Dr Hill said they had not, as yet, eaten the gene-altered potatoes. "I think it would be against the law. But one is change the general dietary ad-obviously tempted to pop one vice that is part of many health into the pot."



Trevor Breslin, reunited with his wife Catherine, 44, and their children Jack, 10, Holly, 12, and Rosie, 14

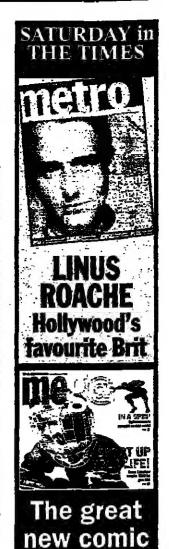
### **Briton back** with family after kidnap ordeal

DAVE KENDALL/PA

A BRITON held hostage by Nigerian oil workers in a dispute about pay and working conditions arrived home yesterday, almost a week after his escape.

Trevor Breslin, 44, who works for Western Geophysi-cal, said he was "elated" to be hack with his family in time for Christmas, after being held captive for two weeks in the country's Ondo Province. Other captives had been released by the gang over several days in return for money. Last Wednesday more cash arrived and while it was being counted, Mr Breslin and the four others escaped on the boat that had

Speaking from his home in Warrington, Cheshire, Mr Breslin, a father of three, said that the pay dispute "got completely out of hand" when he and his colleagues were taken prisoner. "It was made worse by the fact that there is a tribal war going on in that area and there are a lot of armed people about. The mercenaries." (PA NEWS)





#### RESEARCHERS have naturally occurring sub-stance found in some foods. In recent years, aspirin doses of aspirin can prevent has been shown to be im-bowel cancer, following eviportant in preventing heart disease. Recent trials condence that the simple pain-killer could halve the ducted in Bristol by Profes-sor Chris Paraskeva for the number of cases. The disease causes more Cancer Research Campaign suggest that aspirin can inflence the set of instructhan 31,000 deaths in Britain each year, a higher toll tions which regulate cell than any other form of growth and, ultimately, cell death. In the bowel, cells grow, die and are replaced cancer except lung cancer. Scientists based at Queen's

against cancer

By Russell Jenkins

Medical Centre in Nottingmore quickly than in other parts of the body. ham developed the initial research suggesting that us-ing aspirin in a modified form could reduce the num-Folic acid is also thought to be important because it ber of polyps or small helps in the production of growins that lead to the disease. helps in the production of DNA, the molecule controlling aspects of cell growth ling aspects of cell growth

Over the next five years. The project is the focus of the £500,000 trial will target seasonal fund-raising for more than 1,000 volunteers the Cancer Research Cambelieved to be particularly susceptible to bowel cancer. paign. The researchers emphasise that the aspirin Hospitals in Derby. Lecester, Salford, Bristol, is specially modified, and members of the public Cardiff, Newport, Birmingham and Sheffield should not attempt self-

medication. are taking part.

Many of the patients will Bowel cancer is particularly common among older have been treated for polmen and women and is yps. Some will be given a associated with poor, lowform of the drug that has been modified to reduce fibre diets and alcohol. side effects such as stomach Doctors advise eating a upsets: Others will be given balanced diet, high in fibre, a placebo, or folic acid, a fruit and vegetables.

## Queues can be a pain. This one can kill.

Every day 47,000 people call 999 when it's not an emergency. Please don't be one of them. Help keep Britain's lifeline open.

THE KENT COUNTY CONSTABULARY, TOGETHER WITH BT, THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.

'If ever you wanted to have a traditional English hassle-free Christmas, then Chequers is for you'

## Blairs opt for family holiday in Elizabethan splendour

TONY BLAIR will this week become the first Prime Minister for eight years to spend Christmas at Chequers when he takes his family to his official country residence in Buckinghamshire for the festive break. Mr Blair, his wife, Cherie, and three children. will be joined by family and friends, including Mrs Blair's mother, Gale, and Mr Blair's inther, Leo.

In recent times Chequers has remained empty over Christmas while John Major celebrated the holiday quietly with his family at their home in Huntingdon. But the Blairs have chosen to enjoy a tradirional English Christmas amid the Joth-century splen-

dour of the 10instrumed mancion in the heart 6 We all of the Chilterns. The Tudor-Elizaenjoy it heihan mansion. miles from there. The Downing Street. was given to the nation by Lord Lie of Fareham children can be safe in 1917 and first and really George in 1921. Since selling their carefree 🤊 home in Islington, the Blairs have seen Che-

quers as a place where they can relax and escape the claustrophobia of their Downing Street flat.

They will be able to enjoy caml-singing round the 17 h Christmas tree in the Great Hall, long strolls though the 1,100 acre estate, and the chance to warm their toes in front of the many log fires. Those among their guests

desiring a different sort of refreshment can wander off to the nearest hostelry, the Bernard Arms, where Boris Yeltsin once bought a round of drinks. Any subsequently unruly guests could be locked up in the Prison Room, where Elizabeth I kept Lady Jane Grey secured for two years.

On Christmas morning, the family are expected to attend the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, a Roman Catholic church four miles away in the village of Great Missenden. After a large Christmas lunch in the oakpanelled Dining Room, Mr Blair is likely to join Euan. 13. Nicky, II. and Kathryn, 9, for a kickabout game of football on the front lawn.

Although the Annenherg swimming pool. where Norma Major learned to swim, will be shut, the children cycle along the long drives. In an interview

last week. Mr Blair said: "We all enjoy it there. That's where the children can be safe and really hope to have a quiet, family Christmas and a good game of football."

But with the Blairs in residence, the ten staff made up of chefs, stewards, and housekeepers - some of whom are civilians, others of whom are from the RAF and Royal Navy will remain at work to clean, cook and serve.



Chequers, the Prime Minister's retreat in the heart of the Chilterns, was given to the nation by Lord Lee of Fareham in 1917 and first used by Lloyd George in 1921

the former Prime Minister Lady Thatcher, said the Blairs would not have to worry about housework. There is a huge staff for them." she said. "They are not exactly going to have to worry about the turkey. If ever you wanted to have a traditional English hassle-free Christmas when you don't have to lift a finger, then Chequers is for you.

The Majors, who will be at Huntingdon this week, always preferred to be at their own home. "They thought it was a bit hard on the staff, being away from their families," a close friend said.

But when Lady Thatcher was in power, Chequers was a hubbub of festive activity. Carol Thawher said Chequers lent itself to Christmas. "It has the atmosphere of a small Cotswold hotel," she said. Lots of panelling, open fires, a large Christmas tree in the Great Hall. It is a lovely house Carol Thatcher, daughter of in winter, both grand and

cosy." She said her mother used to have an evening drinks party on Christmas Eve, a formal family lunch with close friends after church on Christmas Day, and a buffet lunch on Boxing Day. "She always used to have the VIP Christmas cards, from rovalty and film stars, prominently on the piano so everybody could read them."

Although Mrs Thatcher saw the house as a place of work. she also believed in its motto - "All care abandon ye who enter here".

Parties would be held for the children of her closest officials and staff. Friends, both political and social, would be invited down.

Mrs Major described a Christmas with the Thatchers in her book about the house, Chequers: The Prime Minister's Country House and Its History. She wrote: "At Christmas there was usually a tour of the house and grounds.

while her guests were watching Around the World in Eighty Days or Ring of Bright Water, the Prime Minister was likely to slip quietly away to immerse herself in a hefty report, in much the same way as the rest of us might curl up with the latest thriller."

Mrs Major added that the former Prime Minister James (now Lord) Callaghan and his family were equally keen on Christmas at Chequers. The Callaghans were regarded with great affection by the staff and the family deeply appreciated the cheerfulness with which the staff gave up their Christmas to look afte them," she wrote.

"They went to great pain with the small touches that mean so much; the children were delighted by the life-sized 'snow-covered' reindeer and sleigh, made by the staff, which greeted them on Christ-



Mark, Margaret; Denis and Carol Thatcher at Chequers for Christmas 1981

## Irvine seeks southern sun as colleagues stay at home

ALMOST the entire Cabinet will spend the Christmas holiday quietly at home with their families in Britain — except for Lord Irvine of Lairg. While his ministerial col-

eagues have eschewed their holiday hideaways in Tuscany and Provence, the wealthy Lord Chancellor has headed off for a spot of southern

Even Geoffrey Robinson. the Paymaster General, is staying away from his San Gimigniano villa and Cannes apartment to be with his family in his £1 million country home near Godalming in Surrey. Apart from carving the turkey. Mr Robinson will follow his own longstanding tradition of reading a Shake-

speare play over the break.
Within hours of the House
of Lords rising last Friday.
Lord Irvine packed his bags and flew off with his wife to South Africa's summer sun.

"It is nothing so exciting as a safari," his officials said. pointedly refusing to say exactly where he was staying. "It is just an ordinary holiday. Although he might fit in the odd meeting with the Justice days by the pool. Lord Irvine will return to spend a few days in Britain. But in the first week of January the peer will then head for the Caribbean, where he will join Betty Commonwealth Speakers'

Conference in Trinidad and

Among his many roles, the Lord Chancellor is also the Speaker of the House of Lords. His officials denied the trip was "a junket" and insisted that serious work would take place among the palm trees and rum punches.

Despite the exotic destinations, Lord Irvine's Christmas will pale beside those enjoyed by his predecessor. Cardinal Wolsey, to whom he recently compared himself.

Christmas for Henry VIII's involved a garguantuan meal at Hampton Court, where he lived in the 1520s until his fall

from grace.

According to Peter Brears, a food historian who re-enacts similar feasts at Hampton Court, the Christmas lunch would have been dominated by all sorts of meat and game.

This would have included swan, quail, mallard, pigeon, rabbit, woodcock, curlew.



Cardinal Wolsey: home for a huge Christmas meal

deer as well as chicken and pork. One expensive delicacy popular at the time was

porpoise and seal meat. The centrepiece of the meal vould have been a wild boar's head, stuffed with its brains mixed with diced tongue, spices and herb. The whole thing would have been wrapped in cloth and boiled for ten hours. Absent from the table, of

course, were turkey and potatoes which had yet to be introduced from the Americas. Drink would have been English red and white wine.
After a pudding of sweet-

meats and sugared wafers, the cardinal could have settled back to enjoy the jesters. ugglers and story tellers. Back in the closing years of

the 20th century, Gordon Brown will spend a quiet Christmas in Fife with his family and his girlfriend Sarah MacCaulay. The Chancellor could of course use his official country residence at Dorneywood for a festive blow-out, but he has not stayed at the 45-room mansion in Buckinghamshire

since taking office.

John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, will be in Hull with his family. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, will remain in London and David Blunkett, the Education Sec-

## Students score over masterminds

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

STUDENTS salvaged their reputation as the brains of Britain lass night when the reigning champions of University Challenge beat a team of finalists from the rival television quiz show. Mastermind.

A record low score last month by an allwoman team from Cambridge University brought claims of "dumbing down" in the country's most prestigious seats of learning. But a mixed foursome from Magdaien College, Oxford, redressed the balance

Magdalen overcame the 1997, last-ever Mastermind champion and three runners-up in a Christmas special. The 2nO-205 victory on BBC 2 will help to erase the . By putting them against a truly formida-

memory of New Hall's highly-publicised humiliation. The Oxford team triumphed even though the Masterminders had knowledge of 12 specialist subjects be-

tween them. Afterwards University Challenge pro-ducer Peter Gwyn said: This latest programme should put paid to claims that students are not as bright as they used to be.

"University Challenge constantly throws up controversy about the student population of the UK as a whole, and questions are raised as to whether they could hold their own against their elders.

ble team of Mastermind winners and finalists, I think we've demonstrated that the student population is as bright and well-informed as ever."

The Magdalen team comprised Jim Adams, the captain, who is studying mathematics and philosophy: Colin Andress, who is reading philosophy and ancient history; English undergraduate Gwyllim Thear; and historian Alison

The Masterminders' team was captained by Colin Cadby, who was joined by Clare Ockwell, Andrea Weston and the final Mastermind champion Anne



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## And on the 13th day I took out a big loan

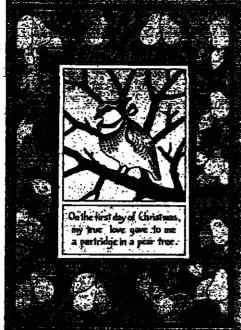
The outlay for the gift list in the song is steep

these days, says **Robin Young** 

THE cost of true love has mas. The total cost of the gifts catalogued in the traditional song The Twelve Days of Christmas has jumped like a lord a leaping to £21,547.59. Last year penny-pinching and bargain-hunting around Europe kept the total down to £6,028.93, the lowest since 1982. This year's shopping expedition reverted to tradi-tional sources within Britain, and the result was the costliest

declaration of love to date. The Times has recalculated the sum each year since the the World Wildlife Fund began the exercise in 1973, when the total was a modest £2,816.60. The course of true love having never run smoothly, this economic barometer has always

been one of the most unsteady. The list of presents suffers avian overload, including no less than 184 birds. It is also li-



COST OF THE TRU	E LOVER'	s Chris	TMAS
		1996	1997
A partridge	2448 ×	£38.90	£54.00
in a pear tree, on 12 days		£97.46	1215.8H # *
Two turtle doves, on 14 days.	Sept. 1884	£327:87	£380'00 /-
Three French hens, \$1110 days	ABOR OFF	£173.49	£275.31 **
Four colly birds, on 9 days	ELECTION.	£646.23	44200.00
Five gold rings, on & days	LACT	£200.48	£1,630.00
Six geese a laying, on I days	23484	£1,046.23	£714.00
Seven swans a swimming, on 6 days	THE WOO	£3,360.48	£1,050:00
Eight maids a milking, for a days	E LOUIS	£88.56	£332.80
Nine drummers drumming on 4 days		-Nil	£2,289,60
Ten pipers piping on 3 days		£19.25	£1,608.00
Eleven ladies dancing, for 2 days	<b>EXAMP</b>	£29.98	£5,434.00
Twelve lords a teaping, day's expenses		NH H	£414.00
Totals		£6,028.93	\$21,543.59

mands, being a source of em-ployment for 140 milkmaids, drummers, pipers, dancing ladies and leaping lords. This year only the swans aswimming and geese a-laying

are cheaper than last year. The partridges (oven-ready), at £4.50 apiece, came from Gordon Hepburn, of Mountnessing, Essex, chairman of

the Guild of Q Butchers. Had the most presentable white the lovestricken swain bought partridges from Harrods they would have been £5.95 each. The pear trees were supplied by Hilliers of Winches-

range and corn-fed from the Landes) at £3.99 a kilo. Alan Dawson, a supplier of ter, at £17.99. The turtle doves aviary-bred colly birds (blackpresent a problem because the species is protected in the wild. The true lover again opted for birds, which cannot be taken from the wild), has long told us that he never really sells the closest approximation any of those few blackbirds he

doves he could find. Tesco

supplied the French hens (free

has. The true lover this year made an expensive switch to mynahs; according to Roger Caton, of the British Bird

Council, they are £200 each. Not many years ago gold rings were obtainable at \$4.99 each: this year we could do no better than £40.75 for a lady's dress ring from Bravingtons. Geese a-laying became less

fowl and Wetlands Trust has re-opened its barnacle goose adoption scheme, through which supporters can adopt barnacle geese in the wild. and have free admission to trust reserves, for £17 a

expensive because the Wild-

The cost of sponsoring wild

believes, is to identify the differences in

individual cancers which determine how

they behave. Genetic analysis of the

tumours, for example, may reveal specific genes which are linked either to slow or

Professor Horwich identifies three

kinds of genes as candidates: those determining the rate of cell proliferation, those involved in correcting errors in

DNA, and those determining whether a tumour cell can migrate to another part of

For cancer of the testes, the emphasis

will be different. This is one cancer which

can often be cured by drugs: an 80 per

cent cure rate is far higher than for most other cancers. Understanding why would

be valuable because it might explain what

is different about testis cancer which

makes it, relatively, such a soft target.

the body and grow there, too.

rapid development.

### Toy train finally arrives 22 years late

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

WHEN Guy Taylor found no train set in his Christmas stocking in 1975, the six-year-old thought that Santa had overlooked him. In fact, his letter to Father Christmas had been lost behind the seats of a

steam railway carriage.

There it lay for 22 years.
until it was found during cleaning on the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway, West Yorkshire. Staff have tracked down the little boy — now a 28year-old architecture student in Sheffield - and presented him with his toy set at iast.

A spokesman for the rail-way said: "One of our repair men found the letter which was a little crumpled but still intact. We run Santa specials every year and give out toys. We felt bad that one of our passengers had been forgotten and decided to make up for

Mr Taylor's family moved some years ago, but the new inhabitants still had a forwarding address.

required an overnight stay the sum would have risen to £78 Mr Taylor said he was each, and if they could prove delighted: "I'm the little boy that Santa nearly forgot."

### **Born Free Appeal**

I wish to donate £ \_\_\_\_\_ to Born Free's Christmas Appeal Method of payment (please tick box)

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PLEASE DO NOT SEND DONATIONS TO THE TIMES For dentils of membership, animal adoptions and projects, visit BFF's Web-site at: http://web.ukonline.co.uk/harnires By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

THE first research centre dedicated to male cancers is the aim of the everyman appeal of the Institute of Cancer Research. At Europe's largest cancer centre, in Sutton, Surrey, the institute intends to build a laboratory focusing on cancers of the prostate, testis, bladder and kidney. As part of its annual Christmas Appeal,

The Times is asking its readers to raise the money for a machine to study the genetics of prostate cancer. Behind this objective lie bigger ambitions — the study of all male cancers, and what they can tell us about cancer generally. Professor Alan Horwich, Director of

Clinical Research and Development at the institute and at the Royal Marsden NHS Trust, says: Research on common cancers like cancer of the prostate has

been neglected, compared with that on breast cancer. My anxiety is heightened by what has happened in the US, and I

believe will happen here.

There, the introduction of screening for prostate cancer has led to a fourfold increase in the number of cases, so that prostate cancer is now the commonest cancer of all. I expect exactly the same

kind of increase here. "The big catch is that the outcome of prostate cancer is so uncertain. Some develop so gently that no treatment is necessary, while others move very rapidly into the rest of the body, especially the bones. If we just tell men that they have prostate cancer, many will have needless treatments, never mind the anxiety of the diagnosis. Those men would be better off

not knowing." The way around the problem, he

America's huge rise in prostate cancer puts men in the spotlight Method of payment (please tick box)

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Please make cheques payable to Everyman appeal or charge Visa/MasterCard/Delta Card no:

swimming through the trust is unchanged at £25 each. With the human workforce,

much depends on the attitude at union headquarters. This year the true lover agreed to

employ milkmaids on over-

time rates of £8.32 an hour,

rather than getting stung for a weekly rate. Last year, he

managed to get the girls at an hourly rate of next to nothing. The musicians are another

matter, and this year their

union insisted on £13.40 an

hour per man, with a mini-

mum of four hours' per en-

gagement, and an extra £10 a

man for the drummers for the trouble of transporting their

kit. Last year we drafted volunteer drummers from UI-

Equity's quote for II ladies

dancing, drawn from the Roy-

al Ballet, rose to £266.50, and they also demanded £17 each

for the apparently necessary

business of attending classes.

The lords a-leaping can

usually claim the maximum

daily expenses they could have

if attending the Upper House, though last year they did it for love. Now they are entitled to

£34.50 a man. Had they trav-

elled in from the country and

they needed secretarial assis-

tance that would add £33.50.

ster and bought CDs.

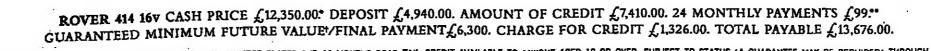
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PLEASE DO NOT SEND DONATIONS TO THE TIMES If more than the £40,000 required for the gene sequencer is raised through this Christmas appeal, it will go directly to other vital prostate cancer research at the Institute of Cancer Research.







### French bra has fruity scent of success

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

DELICATE fruity odour will float from French lingerie next year in an attempt to stimulate what accountants prudently call the "night-time

With surveys showing a sharp decline in Gallic romance, and the manufacturers of slinky underwear hemoaning poor sales, a Parisian company has hit upon the idea of perfumed bras.

In the drawer, they are like any other garment When worn, or "caressed". they give off an aroma of "pink grapefruit, apple. watermelon, blackcurrant and apricot", according to the firm. Neyret. "It's not the sort of thing you'd wear to work," said Michel Lévi. a director.

His venture was born out of frustration at recent stagnation in the Fr lobillion (El.6 billion) French lingerie market. The average French woman may buy two bras. six pairs of knickers and one nightshirt every year. but this is not enough to satisfy firms such as Neyret. They note that

more lingerie. Microencapsulation is the technique that enables aromas to he weaved into lingerie which will be on sale next year for between Fr 290 and Fr 590. "The aroma slowly emerges from thousands, even millions, of capsules. It is as if the flowers on our lingerie are giving off the smell." M Levi said.

But there is a drawback. After one wash, the scent

Knickerbox blow, page 19

## Orphans of the Cold War defeat parents in US

THE strain of adopting Eastern Bloc children who turn out to have severe psychological problems is forcing a small but growing number of Amer-

icans to give up.

Doctors have evidence that up to a third of the children have chronic, irreparable brain damage, leaving them with low IQs, destructive be-haviour and an inability to show affection for their adoprive parents.

The difficulties stem from the time the children spent from birth to well beyond infancy in orphanages in Ro-mania, Russia and elsewhere. Kept in rows of cots, they received only a few minutes of human contact a day, were never cuddled and were staryed of mental stimulation.

As a result, doctors say, their brain scans show large areas where there is no activiry at all, "The effects of institutionalisation do not go away when families give a loving home," said Ronald Federici, a neuro-psychologist near Washington who has treated more than 1.000 children from Eastern Europe.

He accuses adoption agencies in America and in the countries concerned of misleading would-be parents by not warning them that the high-risk children will take a heavy emotional toll.

Among his patients were Russian twins adopted by a New Jersey couple. The dominant twin threw 20 to 30 temper tantrums a day and Adoption cannot solve problems

of the past, says Ian Brodie in Washington

tried to drown his brother. Sent to live with another couple, the troublesome twin attacked his new mother with a baseball bat. The boys now live in separate centres for troubled children.

Another couple who gave up were Kathy and Mike Ballou, of Kansas City, who paid \$25,000 (£15,000) for two-yearold Stefania from Romania. who they were assured was perfectly healthy. As soon as they saw her, they knew something was dreadfully wrong, Mrs Ballou confirmed vester-

#### Romanian plea to save children

**Bucharest: President Cons**tantinescu of Romania sounded the alarm yesterday over the plight of thousands of homeless children. In a TV address, he urged citizens to take responsi-bility for their welfare. The plight of our children has earned us international notoricty," he said. (Reuters)

day. The child was mute, tried to chew furniture and licked the floor. She spun in circles, flapping her arms and bang-ing her head. Mrs Ballou, a nurse, took her to a psychologist who found that she was probably autistic and a victim of retardation from foetal alcohol syndrome caused by her mother's heavy drinking during pregnancy. The Ballous visited doctors, took sick leave from work, sold their car and spent their savings of \$15,000 in medical fees before deciding they had no choice but to give up. Another family took on the burden. Mrs Ballou still regrets losing the girl, but said she was broke and "beyond

exhausted". Every weekend, Dana Hubbard, a Washington accountant, looks after two Romanian sisters, now eight and eleven but with mental ages of two and seven, just to give their single adoptive mother a break. On walks in a park, the younger girl tries to run up to strange dogs, no matter how often she is told they could bite. "It is heart-breaking for these parents who so badly wanted children." Mrs Hubbard said.

The flood of difficult cases is unlike anything seen in the 25 years that Barbara Holtan has been handling special-needs adoptions in York, Pennsylvania. At least once a month she is asked to find a new home for children from Eastern Europe. She said that there were no national statistics, but an



Children like this Romanian street boy can bring great grief to adoptive parents

estimated 20,000 children had been adopted by Americans since the end of the Cold War in 1991. A third are reckoned to adjust well and a third have some emotional or learning

difficulties: the remaining third have severe problems. A support group, the Parent Network for the Post-Institutionalised Child, has 2,500

their adopted child was setting fire to the house. "These problems are adoption's dirty

Thais Tepper, told USA Today that parents had called to say

### returns to face ills of country FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

Yeltsin \*

AFTER nearly two weeks away from his office because of a bad cold. President Yeltsin cut short his recuperation yesterday and returned to work for a few hours, to confront a mountain of wait-

ing domestic problems.
Ignoring the advice of his doctors to stay indoors and rest, the Russian leader called a meeting of his staff in an effort to re-energise his administration.

"Coming back to work is the best medicine for the President." Sergei Yasırzhembsky, the presidential spokesman, said, adding that Mr Yeltsin managed three hours in his office before returning to his sanatorium outside Moscow, as previously agreed with his doctors. Although Kremlin officials are always at pains to emphasise how much work the Russian leader does at his country retreat, it is clear that during his latest absence seyeral pressing problems have

been left unresolved.

The priority for the President is to put renewed pressure on the oppositiondominated Duma, the lower house of parliament, to authorise next year's budget. The Bill, which passed its first reading only because of Mr. Yeltsin's direct intervention on the chamber floor, has since been deliberatedly stalled by Communist deputies.

In normal circumstances the budget delay could be dismissed as an annoying but predictable political issue. Buttoday it is an aggravating factor in a financial system permanently in crisis. Taxes lie uncollected, wages are unpaid and there is a threat of a currency collapse in the new vear, with the launch of a revalued rouble. The budget issue, therefore, will be likely to dominate talks on Friday between the President and the Speakers of both houses.

### Judge gives jailed German tycoon freedom for Christmas

Frankfurt: The disgraced German property tycoon, Jürgen Schneider. was convicted of fraud and sentenced to jail by a Frankfurt court yesterday for deceiving the country's largest

banks out of billions of marks. Judge Heinrich Gehrke, who criticised the banks for making

Schneider's fraud easy, said, howev-

er, that he saw no risk that Schneider would flee the country and granted his wish to spend Christmas with his family. Schneider was neither a professional fraudster nor a Robin Hood of the property world, said the judge, who spent two hours reading the verdict in a crowded courtroom

while Schneider, impeocably dressed

in a dark blue suit, watched impas-

Schneider, 63, who has already spent 32 months in jail, broke down and cried outside the court after the judge said he would have to begin serving the sentence of six years and nine months after Christmas. He was convicted on charges of fraud and

document forgery in what has been called the biggest case of corporate profit. He fled Germany in April 1994 deceit in post-war German history.

Schneider pleaded with the judge for a lenient sentence. He said that his hanks, among them his largest creditor Deutsche Bank AG, tacitly accepted obvious irregularities in his loan applications because they beand, after spending a year on the run, was arrested in Miami, Florida.

He seemed to have a gift for refurbishing decaying city-centre buildings, and his efforts in Frankfurt and Leipzig earned praise (Reuters)

> 45 dead in Mexican villages massacre

It's never been so easy to sink into our luxury car,

Fourth victi

## return China rejects call for Tibet referendum

dission of Jurists for a United Nations supervised referendum in which Tibetans inside Tibet and abroad could de-

We perceive the producer of this report as being ex-tremely ignorant of Tibet's history, and extremely igno-rant of the principles of international relations and internanional law," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. "Since ancient times, Tibet has been an integral part of China, and matters concerning Tibet are China's internal affair. The International Committee of Jurists should stop interfering in China's internal affairs."

A FOURTH person suspected of having avian flu died yester-day as Hong Kong authorities suspended all chicken imports

The woman, 63, was among

three suspected and nine con-

firmed victims of the virus.

Chickens from China,

which supply 75 per cent of

those consumed in Hong

Kong, were "temporarily sus-

pended" from last night in

what was described as "a

voluntary measure by the mainland health authority."

The ban appears to run counter to the claim yesterday

by Liu Zoulu, Deputy Director

of the Guangdong Health Department, that "there is no

trace of the disease in chicken

populations on the mainland,"

Chinese officials insist that no

mainland person has been

In one family two children

have avian flu and two are suspected of having the virus.
All the children are in satisfac-

diagnosed with chicken flu.

She died of pneumonia.

CHINA yesterday rejected a of colonising Tibet and waging "total" war on the Dalai Lama. In its 365-page report the Geneva-based commission described Tibet as under alien subjugation", and called for a UN-supervised referen-dum in which Tibetans could declare what they want; the commission noted this could lead to independence, "genu-ine internal self-government,"

> The commission has studied Tibetan affairs since the 1950s, when it issued a report condemning Chinese rule in Tibet. "It is to maintain its alien and unpopular rule that China has sought to suppress Tibetan nationalist dissent and extinguish Tibetan cul-

Some health officials are admitting, off the record, that the disease is being passed from

human to human, although

Dr Paul Saw, Hong Kong's Deputy Director of Health,

said yesterday that this had

children is that their grand-

mother is said to scavenge for dead chickens in a rubbish up

where they have been discard-

Chicken sales have dropped steeply and many families avoided the traditional chick-

en meal on Monday night, the

The problem with the four

not been confirmed.

destroyed.

of the birds.

or a continuation of Chinese

By JONATHAN MERSKY

Chinese historians often point to the good relations between China and Tibet in The lawyers acrused China ture," says the report's introthe seventh century when the Fourth victim dies Tang Dynasty emperor sent a princess to the Tibetan king as a sign of friendship. Actually, the Tibetans had recently sacked the Tang capital and the princess was dispatched to in chicken flu scare

> In recent centuries, when emperors were devout lama Buddhists, the relationship between the Dalai Lama and the emperor was that of mentor and student, while the Chinese occasionally provided military protection to Tibet from other neighbours. Be-tween 1913 and 1950, when Chinese troops invaded Tibet, there was virtually no contact

between the two countries.

Lhasa, the Tibetan capital, as

duction by Adama Dieng, the

commission's secretary-gener-

the exiled spiritual leader of Tibet, and its eradication cam-

paigns against his followers throughout the region. It

claims that this campaign has intensified during the past year. The commission's report

coincides with most informed

opinion outside China, Al-

though there is not a single

similarity in language or so-

cial customs and organisation, Beijing maintains that Tibet

has been a part of China for

The report makes special mention of Beijing's total war against the Dalai Lama.

ed by butchers. No one has tested the dead birds and neither grandparent will agree to be tested. Two market stalls have been closed because of virus traces in chicken droppings and all birds on the stall were A dead bird in a wholesale market also tested positive. In neither of the markets was it possible to identify the source



Pedestrians pick their way among meat and other items at Cairo's crowded market during preparations for next week's start of Ramadan

## Cairo crusader fights for new order

PUSHING, jostling and grinning, they surrounded the grey-haired figure, reaching out to grasp his hands and

thrusting dog-eared documents at him. "Salaam aleikum, Governor!" "You are welcome, sir. Please help me." An old man in pebble glasses and dirty robe pushed forward. "I need another job. I am old but I want to work." A woman in a tightly-wrapped scarf produced a creased photocopy of the

petition she had trailed from one dingy office to another. "Look. I have six children. They will not give me a bigger house. Tell them to listen." Shopkeepers in the narrow alley

beside the ancient al-Azhar mosque left their stools to crowd round the man who ordered the clean-up of Cairo's historic heart. "How is business?" he asked. "Not enough tourists," one replied.

Here, listening patiently under the bright street lights that he ordered to be installed only three months ago, was the one man who could dispense justice, frighten the bureaucrats and bring order to the teeming streets. He smacked the outstretched hands. "Hello Ali. Things going well?" "Hello Samir — you still here?"

Ibrahim Shehata, Governor of Africa's largest city, thumbed through the despairing evidence of poverty and struggle, noting the occasional name,

Michael Binyon

takes a walk with Governor Shehata, right, who is bringing an end to the

capital's chaos official. "Come to the weekly meeting.

We'll deal with it all there." This was direct democracy in action. This is Cairo's astute reply to Islamic fundamentalism. The late-night walkabout lasted an hour. Scores of clamouring Cairenes

were by turn comforted, teased and reassured. A final stop to argue about a broken tree, "It's dying, Governor. Can't I cut it down?" the owner pleaded. "OK - but you must plant a new one at your own cost." There is a £200 fine for cutting down a tree.

"They are good people," he re-marked later in his office. The city is ungovernable - but we must have

in touch. People want to know that their rulers listen to them. Terrorism starts in these streets if no one cares." Dr Shehata now controls a city of ten

million people. The housing stock is decaying, the streets clogged, the grime, rubbish and dusty detritus of centuries an eyesore. He - and, it seems, eager supporters - insist that it

can and must change.

His plan is ambitious and costly. Sixty-eight shanty towns will be given water, drainage and electricity. Contracts have gone out to private developers to clean up the urban slums, collect and recycle rubbish and refurbish houses. The city is to plant one million

Nile banks. Squares are being planted cleaned, fenced and lit. The Governor said: "Our monuments are our jewel. but they are dirty and falling down. We're getting money from Unesco and world bodies to protect them — and I'll clean up the surroundings."

The Nile is his priority. "It is the most beautiful river in the world. With the Nile and moonlight you have all the romance you want." But first he must halt the effluent from drains and sewers, demolish the shacks along the banks, build a riverside walkway and move out the clubs, private restaurants and police posts. One such post in front of the British Embassy has already gone - under police protest.

He expects opposition, delay and bureaucracy. But the greatest challenge is privilege and corruption. "You must have discipline. That was how the pyramids were built. Egyptians like discipline.

Cairo has spent £5 billion on infrastructure in the past 25 years; he plans to spend another £1.5 billion in the next three. President Mubarak's Government may stand or fall by his efforts. Only by improving daily life in the capital can extremists be defeated. he insists. "Do we want a capital worthy of its name?" Many people, it appears, do. The walkabouts are his strength - and the corrupt and

### \* Mexican villages massacre

FROM DAVID ADAMS

MORE THAN 40 Indian peasants, including pregnant women and children, have been massacred by paramilitary gunmen in two roral villages in southern Mexico. ccording to Catholic church officials and peasant activists.

Details began filtering out from the remote region of Chiapas state yesterday after Tzotzil Indian survivors were rescued by Red Cross officials sent to investigate reports of bloodshed. Cipriano Villegas Apodaca, a Red Cross official, said 45 people were killed.

He said most of the victims were less than 18 years old, and that 19 people were wounded. Three children with gunshot wounds were taken to hospital in San Cristóbal de las Casas, the nearest main town about 45 miles away, a local radio station said. It said survivors saw women and children shot at point-blank

range.
Church and peasant activists who are trying to piece together what happened, say That on Monday about 60 gunmen surrounded the villages of Acreal and Quextic,

hefore opening fire. This is the worst massacre that has happened in Chiapas since the armed uprising of 1994," said Domingo Pérez Palencia, president of the municipal council of Chenalho, where the attack took place.

### 45 dead in Kenyatta son pledges to restore freedom

of Jomo Kenyatta, Kenya's first President and the revered "Father of the Nation", his son Uhuru is making a bid for political office.

Standing for the ruling Kanu Party in Sunday's general election, Uhuru Kenyatta, 37, hopes his reformist ideas can help to steer the discredit-ed administration of President Moi back on course. "I want to breathe fresh life into Kanu

and Kenya," he says. But so far have standards slipped since the early days of Kenyan independence that vote-rigging and vote-buying are widespread, Uhuru whose name is Swahili for "freedom" - has become a prisoner of a rotten system. handing out cash to woo voters. "Sometimes I have to

say "No, I'm not going to give you money". People expect it." A businessman with interests in hotels, farming and horticulture, Mr Kenyatta is

memoir of an African childhood, The Flame Trees of Thiku. But it is unlikely that he can return Kenya to the prosperity of his father's day. My father would be concerned about the country," Mr Kenyatta says. "Public funds do it," he admits. "I can't just

Uhuru Kenyatta as a child with his famous father

The son of Kenya's first leader is running for office with the aim of getting President Moi's discredited party back on track, David Orr reports from Thika

our health service and educa-

expected to win the seat for Gatundu South constituency of Thika, the place immorta-lised by Elspeth Huxley in her



have not been used as they should have been. Our infrastructure has taken a beating,

tion system too." He is in an invidious position. He is contesting a con-stituency in the homeland of the Kikuyu, Kenya's largest tribe. In his father's day, this was staunchly pro-Kanu territory. Jomo Kenyatta, himself a Kikuyu, became leader of Kanu in 1960 while serving a sentence for his part in the Mau Mau anti-colonial uprising. But so disillusioned have the Kikuyu become with the ruling party under President Moi that Central Province is now resolutely anti-government. Kanu failed to win a single seat here in the 1992

multiparty elections. "I'm on a Kanu ticket because of family ties and because I believe in the party's principles," Mr Kenyatta said in this coffee growing town near Nairobi. But if I crossed over to the [opposition] Demo-cratic Party. I wouldn't even need to campaign, I could just

Observers say the Government had to alter the former constituency of Gatundu, dividing it into north and south. to give Mr Kenyatta a better

### Fears for health as Pope misses Mass

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS

THE Pope will not celebrate his traditional Christmas Day Mass in St. Peter's Basilica tomorrow, Vatican officials said vesterday, reviving speculation in Church circles on whether he will be fit

enough to make a historic visit to Cuba The Tyear-old Roman Catholic leader has kept his public appearances to a strict minimum recently. He did not attend a Vatican charity yuletide rock concert starring the guitarist B.B. King that was held in the Holy See on Friday. Vatican

sources have said that John Paul, who survived an assassination attempt in 1981, has appeared in better health recently than for several months. Yet when he visited the Spanish Steps in Rome for a ceremony to mark the Feast of the Immaculate Conception last month, he was unable to speak for several minutes because of the nervous affliction from which he suffers that is widely believed to be Parkinson's

Disease. His weekly general audiences for pilgrims in the Vatican have been suspended for three weeks to allow him

to rest. The Pope is scheduled to celebrate a solemn Christmas Eve Midnight Mass in St. Peter's Basilica tonight. Tomorrow he is to give his traditional Christmas message and Urbi et Orbi (to the city and the world) blessing from the central loggia in St. Peter's Square.

It is the third consecutive year that the Polish pontiff has cancelled his public Christmas Day Mass. Doctors judged his previous Christmas schedule too punishing. Vatican diplomats hope that the scaled-down schedule will mean the Pope can make his planned pastoral visit to Cuba between January 21 and 26.



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FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

THREE authors have filed a \$5 million (£3 million) lawsuit against MGM and the screenwriter of Tomorrow Never Dies, the new James Bond film, alleging that the plot and characters were "lifted wholesale" from an unproduced screenplay they wrote in 1994.

The film pits Bond against a diabolical media mogul who sees world conflict as a means of boosting the ratings of his television stations. It opened in America last weekend to packed houses.

But Jeffrey Howard. Chris Beutler and Jay Schlossberg-Cohen claim, in papers filed in the United States District Court in Los Angeles, that they circulated their screenplay widely in 1996. They say that the recipients included Madeleine Warren, the wife of Bruce Feirstein, who penned the screenplay for fomorrow Never Dies.

But Mr Feirstein told Daily Variety: "I was already working in London on the script after the story had been approved when they submit-

## Former British agent exposes Berlin spy ring

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A SECRET spy ring known as the "Railway Men" helped British intelligence units to keep track of Soviet troop trains in East Germany during the Cold War, right up to the day when the Berlin Wall

came down. The Railway Men. ranging from East German stationmasters to booking clerks. were recruited as agents to provide tip-offs about the movements of Russian troops on the extensive rail networks.

For British and other Western intelligence officers operating in Berlin during the Cold War, one of the key responsibilities was to monitor the railways and stay on the lookout for any sign of mass mobilisation.

Now former Captain Steve Gibson, who served in Sovietcontrolled East Germany between 1988 and 1990 with a 'special duties" intelligence unit - the British Commander-in-Chief's Mission to the Group of Soviet Forces of

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Occupation in Germany (Brixmis) - has revealed how much they relied for information on East German railway officials as secret agents.

The Brixmis teams were operating legitimately as part of an agreement signed after the Second World War in which the British and Soviet of occupation in Germany were allowed to exchange military liaison missions into their respective control zones. The Soviet version was called Soxmis.

lt was legitimate intelligence-gathering, although it often led to violent confrontation with Soviet and East German counter-surveillance operatives who used to ram their vehicles off the roads and physically attack individual Brixmis members.

Former-Captain Gibson, who was one of the intelligence-gatherers who served as Nato's eyes and ears behind the Iron Curtain throughout the Cold War, was the last tour officer for the British spying mission before the Brixmis team was withdrawn in 1990. In a personal account of his

secret operations. The Last Mission, Behind the Iron Curtain, (Sutton Publishing), on sale this week, Mr Gibson, 37, describes the dangerous cat-and-mouse games he and his fellow team members played while watching Soviet troops board trains and following rail shipments of tanks and armoured combat

Yesterday he said that while signals intelligence operations and spy satellites helped to watch over suspicious Soviet troop movements, the East German Railway Men were crucial to the success of the Brixmis teams.

Previous accounts of Brixmis operations have not revealed how East German igents were recruited.

Mr Gibson's principal secret agent was an East German who "ran a big railway station".

He said: "I never met him but he supplied me with vital information about the move ment of Soviet troops which saved us hours of fruitless searching for military trains." Mr Gibson reveals that his station official was recruited

by Major John Walker, a senior Intelligence Corps of-ficer. Members of the Intelligence Corps and SAS who operated at that time in Sovietcontrolled East Germany used to wear "bland cap badges" like the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, to try to limit Soviet suspicion of their activities. Mr Gibson said: "The im-

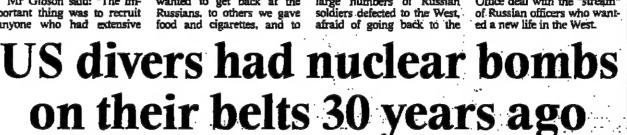
knowledge of military train movements. Some of the officials we recruited agreed to give us information because they wanted to get back at the

some we gave money."

The former intelligence officer also discloses that after the Berlin Wall came down, large numbers of Russian

Steve Gibson, friend of Cold War trainspotters, at his Cotswold home yesterday

Soviet Union because of the uncertain future they faced. Mr Gibson returned to Berlin in 1992 to help the Foreign Office deal with the "stream'



IN WASHINGTON

THE United States designed a lightweight nuclear bomb more than 30 years ago that could be strapped to the belts parachuting behind enemy lines, according to newly declassified material.

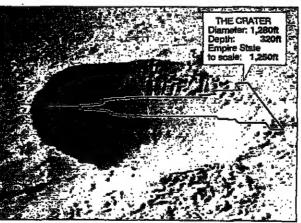
Details of the James Bondstyle device were disclosed yesterday when the Government lifted its curtain of nuclear secrecy for a rare look behind the Cold War scenes. Films released for the first time along with hundreds of thousands of newly declassified documents disclosed nuclear tests ranging from large explosions to hand-held

One film shows a navy diver clamping his 60lb bomb, called a Special Atomic Demolition Munition, to the hull of a ship, setting the timer and swimming away. The bomb was never used in combat but was in the US arsenal from 1963 until only eight years ago. It had a yield of less than one kiloton — 1,000 tons of TNT but would have caused widespread radioactive contamina-tion if detonated in a harbour. To this day, there are fears that such a weapon could be built by terrorists or fall into their hands.

Another nuclear weapon was a bazooka named after Davy Crockett, the American frontiersman. The battlefield atomic warhead could be inunched by a single soldier using a shoulder-fired recoilless weapon. It had a range of between one and six miles and was issued to infantry units in Europe and the Far East.

Eventually, the Davy Crocketts were withdrawn, partly out of fear that the weapon could too easily be captured by an enemy and partly because worries that radioactive





Official pictures show soldiers cleaning up after a nuclear blast and the crater from a test in Nevada

fallout would be too close to American troops. One film shows Robert Kennedy, then attorney-general, donning dark glasses to watch a Davy Crockett demonstration in Nevada in 1964.

At the same test site two years earlier, a nuclear bomb of 104 kilotons, nearly seven times the size of the bomb dropped on Hiroshima, caused a spectacular explosion that was the equivalent of an

earthquake measuring 4.75 on the Richter scale. The blast displaced 12 million tons of earth, scouring out a crater 320 feet deep and nearly a quarter of a mile wide. The purpose was to determine whether atomic explosions could have a peaceful purpose in moving earth for mining. digging canals and creating harbours.

The test was one in a long series of detonations known as

most of them conducted underground. Although a technical success, the explosions-forpeace programme was never put into practice in the US. To test the effects of radiation on mals were used as surrogates. Footage of the experiments was described as "disturbing" by Federico Pena, the US Energy Secretary whose department released the material under the Clinton Administration's promise of more openness on nuclear

He announced an end to the practice that all information about nuclear weapons is "born classified". Instead, he said, his department would only classify documents where there was a compelling national security interest. Indeed, there will be an even higher classification for all drawings and other data showing how weapons are designed and built, further evidence of Washington's concerns about nuclear terrorism. On the other hand, the Energy Department, which still oversees America's nuclear weapons research, will no longer classify information that deals solely with environmental quality or with the health and safety of its workers and the public.

Among the documents released were 270,000 pages relating to the vast off-limits nuclear reservation at Hanford in the Pacific northwest where nuclear reactors operated for almost 50 years to produce plutonium for US nuclear weapons, starting with the first atom bombs made for the Manhattan

Overall, the United States conducted 35 nuclear explosions in 27 peaceful tests, compared with the Soviet Union's 173 explosions in 156 peaceful tests.

WORLD SUMMARY

### Sweden's Queen of hearts

QUEEN SILVIA of Swe den revived a 70-year-old man who collapsed while speaking to her at a dinner in Stockholm (Victoria Fletcher writes).

The Queen, who celebrated her 54th birthday yesterday. gave Sten Rudholm a heart massage. She told guests that she knew what to do and would take care of the man, who suffered a drop in blood pressure. Mr Rudholm recovered a few minutes after the treat-ment on Saturday.

#### 18 arrested in Paris clashes

Paris: Eighteen people were arrested in Paris in the latest clashes after a week of youth violence. About 15 vehicles were damaged in bartles between two gangs of 100 youths at Creteil, southeast of the capital. The area is notorious for juvenile delinquency and for fights between rival gangs, some-times with ethnic overtones. (Reuters)

#### Catholics feud over cleric

Geneva: The Pope's appointment of Wolfgang Haas, a controversial traditionalist, to head the new archdiocese of Liechtenstein has triggered a feud between Roman Catholics and pitted the Government of the Alpine principality against its monarch. Prince Hans-Adam II, who supported the nomination.

#### **Burundians** given arms

Bujumbura: The Burundi Government said firearms were being handed out to civilians so they can de-fend themselves against increasing armed raids by Hutu rebels after reports that they have been attacking schools, abducting ci-vilians and carrying out the country. (AFP)

### Malaria kills

Nairobi: A deadly strain of malaria has killed 143 people in northeastern Kenya in the past three months, Maurice Makhanu, the provincial commissioner, said. "We had a serious floods here. Now they are subsiding and there are a lot of mosquitoes." (Reuters)

#### Paris statue for Churchill

Paris: The French are being asked to help to pay for a statue to be erected in Paris in honour of Sir Winston Churchill. The statue, to be sculpted by Jean Cardot, will be placed outside the Petit Palais museum near the Champs Elyseés. (AFP)

#### Killer leopard is shot dead

Kathmandu: Hunters shot dead a leopard which has been terrorising a village for the past year, the forestry ministry said. The oft leopardess was said to have killed 20 people, in-cluding 14 children, in an area 110 miles northeast of here. (AFP)

#### Escape Claus

Berlin: Three gunmen in Santa Claus outfits fled with money after raiding a gambling hall in the eastern German town of Friedland. (Reuters)

### Arctic rivals get steamed up in Santa war our guard. The trouble is that market-

SIGURDARDOTTIR IN REYKJAVIK

ICELAND is in danger of losing a Santa war" with its arch-rival, Finland, to establish itself as the undisputed home of Father Christmas.

Haukur Birgisson, head of marketing for the Icelandic Tourist Board. says of the new "Cold War": "I am calling a Santa crisis summit with interested parties early in the new year. There is no doubt that decisive action needs to be taken fast if Iceland is to reclaim Santa from the Finns."

With his own post office, radio station and aircraft, which bears his name and travels the world to spread

the message of "the world's only gen-uine Santa Claus". Finland's Father Christmas has the upper hand in the battle for the hearts, minds - and wallets - of Santa-followers the world over. According to the Finns, the Finnish Santa Claus lives in Lapland.

icelanders say that, according to a recent survey, 50 per cent of American children believe that he lives either in Iceland or at the North Pole.

Iceland's only effort to justify that faith, however, consists of a small home page on the Internet, run by a private company which offers users the chance to create their own personalised message from Father Christmas for £3.60. "It is not a lost war," Mr Birgisson says, "but we have slept on

ing Santa requires a long-term strategy as well as a lot of money, and Icelanders are better at getting brilliant ideas than following them up."

One "brilliant idea" was dreamt up by an Icelandic travel agency a few years ago. It was to build an "Interna-tional Santaland" in the small south coast town of Hveragerdi, until then famous only for its greenhouses. The marketing campaign to attract lovers of Father Christmas from all over the world began in November of that year, by which time most winter holidaymakers had made other plans. Visitors

It cannot have helped that because of the area's geothermal heat, so helpful to growing vegetables, it is rare to see snow there.

Another reason for Iceland's lacklustre performance may lie in the fact that the Father Christmas idea has competition there. The jolly, hearded figure of cosmopolitan tradition is doing battle with indigenous "Christmas men". They are 13 laddish chaps, bearing names such as "Stiff-legged Sheep Chaser", "Shorty", "Door Slammer", Candle Beggar and Sausage Snatcher", who start descending from the mountains in early December, the last one arriving on Christmas Eve.

These Yuletide lads have strong

roots in Icelandic folklore and little to do with the Mediterranean saint who is Father Christmas's forebear.

street c

By Christopher Thomas, south asia correspondent

A PLANELOAD of 89 people. half of them Bangladeshi expatriates from London, were amazed to be alive yesterday after the aircraft crash-landed in a rice field, skidded 500 yards and stopped in a cloud of smoke with one wing torn off and the undercarriage

Their apparently miraculous escape happened as the Birnan Bangladesh Airlines Fokker 28 was coming in to land. The plane has been badly damaged. It's a miracle survived despite crash land-ing," said Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, state Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism after visiting the crash site and hospitals. "Those injured are also not in serious condition " The domestic flight began from Dhaka, the Bangladeshi capital. M. A. Mannan, the pilot, said the aircraft hit an air pocket at low altitude while he was preparing to land. It came to a halt in the dark two

miles from the airport in

marshy ground, but it took

two hours for the authorities

to confirm its whereabouts

because radio contact was lost

before the crash. More than 55

A tor clerk

Maintie : Fin

A CHARLES

four crew, were detained in

At dawn, rescuers renewed their search of the wreckage for survivors, and were stunned that nobody had died. Hundreds of villagers and soldiers from a nearby army camp helped to free the Airline officials said the

passengers and crew would not have survived if the plane had caught fire. "It is sheer luck that the plane did not burst into flames," said one. That is why the passengers were saved from almost certain deaths." Tara Miah, one of the passengers, said visibility was

poor because of fog as the aircraft came in to land late on Monday. She felt a sudden jerk. "We knew something had gone wrong. Many started screaming and calling for Allah's help. Soon we saw we had landed on a paddy field in the dark." she said. iqbal Siddiqui, a newspaper reporter who visited the crash

site, described the plane as "ducking into a rice field with had "roughly hit the ground and I saw myself bleeding one of its wings broken and from the nose". He said: "The two of its wheels dug into the aircraft appeared to have been mud." Captain Mannan said he used the emergency exit in wind soon after I had issued the cockpit after the aircraft

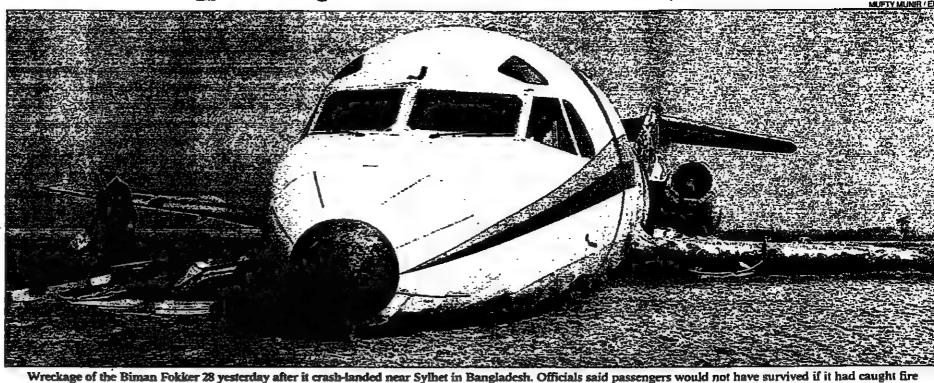
ing. And it went beyond my control."

Many owners of Indian Indians - originate from the tradition of supplying cooks for the Royal Navy. Many settled in Britain after the Second World War, when Pakistan, and the aircraft's

travelling to visit relatives for the holiday. Bangladesh has a tiny Christian population but edged, if not celebrated, and many expatriate Bangladeshis

roots at this time of year. An airport official at Sylhet. 150 miles northeast of Dhaka - a several attempts to land in poor visibility before belly-

landing. The airline acquired the aircraft in 1981 and it was Commander Aminur Rashid, the airport director, said that



people, including Captain Mannan, were injured and

Jaime Jaramillo with Hanna, a child with Down's syndrome he rescued from parental cruelty

### Mission of mercy for Colombia's street children

n a world gone wrong. Jaime Jaramillo is one man who has tried to make a difference. One Christmas Eve, he found out just how wrong things had

was to change his life. That day he was strolling in the Colombian capital, Bogoth, when someone tossed a gift

box out of a passing car.

A little girl raced to pick it up, thinking there might be some valuable object inside. maybe even a discarded Christmas present. Her eyes met Senor Jaramillo's and spoke for a moment of sheer joy. But she failed to see an oncoming lorry bearing down on her. She was smashed against the pavement

"I felt as if I had killed her because I had distracted her recalled. To add to his grief, he found that she had died for

\*From that time, when I saw that broken body, I realised I was meant to help street children," he said. Immediately he set about being an instant Father Christmas, distributing about 200 inexpensive gifts until sunrise.

He was then 18 years old, a university student in engineering. "I made up my mind to give ten children a solution within a year." he said, and began placing them in different families, who acted as

Based on his own parents' teachings, he supplied the street children with tools to earn a living. "It was amazing." I gave them shoe shine boxes and they started becoming an example for the rest of the people," he said. "I gave one an old bicycle and he started to deliver newspapers."

After that promising start he went to study abroad, but resumed his work with the children when he returned. At the same time, he set up his

own company It was only slowly that he began to learn of the true plight of the street children. who used to hide in the sewers to avoid death squads, hired by the Government and business people to wipe out what they saw as young criminals with no hope of redemption.
The campaign of "social

cleansing" forced the children

A lost generation in Bogotá is being offered salvation by a remarkable man, writes Ross Dunn

underground. "It was a good place to hide, but if the inferno of Dante exists, the living hell, then it is the sewers because the children had to live between rats; mosquitoes and leeches," Señor Jaramillo said. Their survival depended on how high they could keep their heads above the human waste."

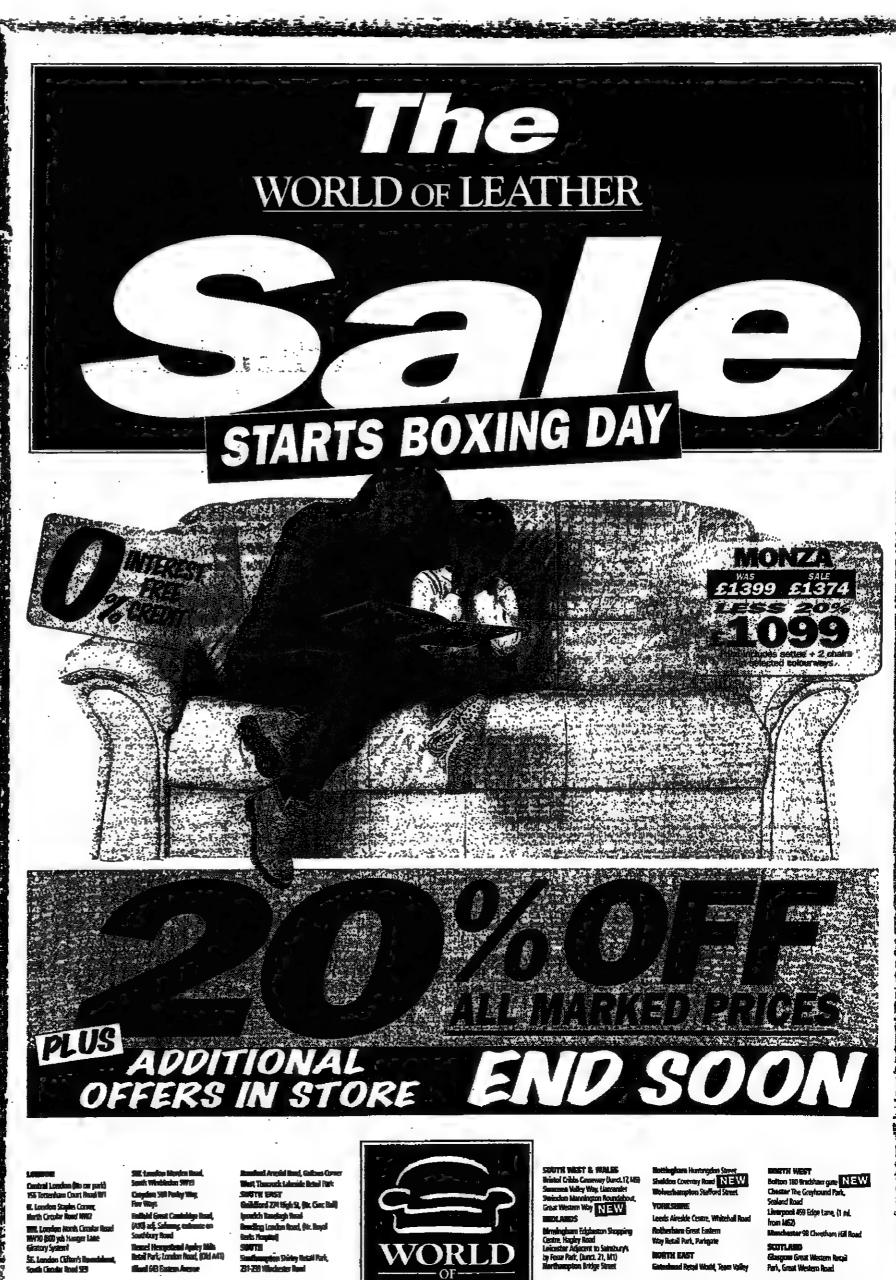
After slipping many times himself in the sewers and swallowing the filth, he began using specially designed Scu-ba equipment, including a miniature tank.

Even that was not always enough to avert tragedy. "Once, I was inside the sewers holding a couple of children and suddenly water came rushing in," he said. "I lost my grip on one of them."

Slowly, a small group of volunteers was formed to join him in the rescue patrols. "The children never turned me away, never," said Señor Jaramillo, 42. "They are looking for love because most of them were raped, thrown away from their homes."

By 1988, he decided to formalise his work by setting up a charity. La Fundación Niños de los Andes (Children of the Andes Foundation). He was also helped by oil company executives, who gave contracts to some of the teenagers. Señor Jaramillo believes

that about 1.500 children have been rehabilitated since he began his mission. They inciude Luisa Catalina Cuellar. 15. who said: "Life in the streets is like a jail. The day I decided to come to the foundation was when one of the children in my group was murdered "Sometimes I cry with happiness because I found beautiful people who love me. I am now only starting to childhood."



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## How I found faith



moment or two and then asked.

in absolute astonishment: "Cath-

grine, have you become reli-

graus?" I sensed he would have been less shocked at the possibili-

no that I had become a prostitute

Hastily I reassured him that I had not then felt guilty for betraying what I have become

So I added "At least not in a

conventional way. But I do

believe we are all connected by

spirit. . . From the expression of

ularm on his face. I could see my

explanation was not

going down well, so

His thoughts I can

mly guess at, but

Why. I wondered, do-

I feel such acute em-

barrassment at puls-

licly admitting my opinicality? How, as

a society, did we lose

our belief and respect.

For religion to such an

estent that it has be-

come social suicide

er en to mention God? it seemed

aspecially isonic given that only a

stone's throw away. Oxford

Street vius an orgy of people

doing their Christmas shopping.

We are living in an age and culture where intellect and scep-

ticism triumph. The existence of

God can only be left in the soul: it

cannot be measured with a ruler

or proved with a calculation.

therefore God does not exist. It is:

that simple.
I used to be a product of this

nundset. I was brought up as an

urneist to believe that religion is

preposterous. Faith in God was

or the weak or feeble-minded.

those not strong enough to

survive the ordeal of living

without a crutch. Or worse, it

was evidence of an appalling

arrogance in which man tries to

derly himself by casting God in

Several years of compulsory

church attendance at school did

nothing to kindle my faith, and

when I finally escaped from

formal religious education. I

assumed my dealings with God

ere over. Then, at 18, ( spen)

three weeks hiking in the moun-

tains of Oregon. It was the first

time I had teen such beauty and I

The answer, I fear, is obvious.

were clear.

we paried company.

or a drug addict.

Catherine Lucas was an atheist, scornful of belief and pitying of believers, until a moment of revelation

found it awe-inspiring, I staked up the magnificence of the rocks, walking in Hyde the trees, the mountains and the Park when I bumped light above them, so shatteringly intera friend I had not seen for news. During the conver-I felt a tremendous sense of joy sation I mentioned something and realised that if this beauty about the spirit. He listened for a

'Civil war

broke out

between

my head

and my

heart'

was in everything around me. in every scrap of matter, then it must also be within me. My heart broke open and my soul leapt free, exulting in this moment of interconnection. Then I went home and forgot about it.

At least I thought I did, except that I now had a mysterious hunger of the soul. Something deep within me came to the surface that summer, bringing with it a longing that I could neither name nor satisfy. The only time I felt peace from it was

in nature, where I reexperienced the joy of union and the feeling of expanding into the infinite.

One day it dawned on me that this joy was a spiritual experience. I was horrified. But the feeling was so powerful and the logic so overwhelmingly simple that my intellect had no chance to defend itself. For the first time I understood the presence of God in

Not that this made it any easier to accept. My rational mind was outraged and civil war broke out between my head and heart. Over several years my experiences of the presence of God grew stronger. But this only intensified the conflict, because I still did not understand what God is. I could not get past the idea of an old man with a white beard up in Heaven, and was torn between the undeniable truth of my experience and the doubts and taunts of my disbe-

Until one day a couple of years ago. I was in the country side on my own and had spent several glorious summer days walking in the hills. One evening I was sitting quietly when suddenly everything around me dissolved. It was like dropping through a trap door into darkness and I found myself in what I can only describe as a sea of sparkling energy, I was conscious but nothing, including my body, had

any form or structure. At first I was astonished and then I realised that whereas before I had experienced the presence of God in all things, this



Vision of angels: "Because of the tyranny of doubt in our society, to speak of God is to risk becoming an outcast"

was God. at least, this is what people call God for the sake of calling it something. Finally I understood that God is not an old man in the sky, it is a limitless ocean of consciousness. of unmanifest energy, and the source of everything in existence from the largest planet to the smallest insect.

Gradually things rematerialised and, although they were exactly the same, I was completely different. Suddenly everything made sense. It was like watching the sun sail out from behind a cloud - the light was there all the time, but now I knew its source and everything became more radiant.

The understanding of God is a feeling of coming home in the fullest sense, of finally knowing one's true nature, because everything we experience, from joy.

love and acts of genius to pain, grief and destruction - all come from this source. And knowing this has taught me to be grateful

his is why the loss of faith is so devastating to our society, because we no longer have a way of recognising and celebrating what is precious and sacred. It is only when we experience a crisis such as the death of Diana. Princess of Wales, that we see the appalling emptiness of our lives. Or at Christmas, when our pursuit of the material and the meaningless reaches its peak and yet does nothing to satisfy our deepest needs.

So, contrary to my expectations, believing in God has nothing to do with arrogance. instead it creates true humility.

because it reminds us that everything we are is thanks to God, that we are each a speck in the divine whole. And it is certainly not a crutch, because admitting our divinity demands that we give everything.

I would like to say it has been easy since that moment of revelation, but it has not. I have found that it brings an awesome responsibility. For it is not enough to live an ardent but secret spiritual life. It forces one to come out of hiding and own it publicly - to allow the divine to shine through and, as Buddha said, to "make of thyself a light". Or, as Christ instructed, to "stand and testify".

That brings me back to my conversation in the park, for clearly I am still struggling against my conditioning. When I think of the prophets, writers

when neither her husband nor

and continue to manage, she

her "panicky and suicidal".

charges of emotional over-

load, but there is a real - and

possibly intractable - difficul-

Instinctively I balk at the

And so it goes on.

and the millions of ordinary people who have been willing to share the truth with others, I know it is an honour to join them. But I also know, because of the tyranny of doubt in our society, that to speak of God is to

risk becoming an outcast. Christmas is a good time to speak of God. Nowadays I appreciate Christmas far more because I understand the truth in Christ's leachings and I ma go to church to honour his birth. But to me. it is more important to practise what Christ and all the other great prophets preached: to love God above all else and to share that love with others. This awareness allows me to enjoy every aspect of Christmas, and reminds me that there is something far more precious than presents or turkey and Christ-

## Another episode of NYPC blues

Tunku Varadarajan has a bleak midwinter

S ix pairs of eyes hored into me as I took my leave at the door. Heads turned, too, even in the far corners of the room. The small party, hitherto convivial. lapsed suddenly into a sulk. I had broken one of New York's cardinal rules of political correctness. I had said merry Christmas. "Happy holidays," my hostess riposted with well-bred froideur, "Happy holidays said everyone else in a kind of collective

hear-hear designed to plonk me in my place. "Happy holidays," I grumbled. Let me explain, for puzzled readers in Britain, that one is no longer allowed to say "merry Christmas" in New York, It is strictly, utterly, totally, absurdly, mind-bogglingly forbidden. Of all the many cards I have received this year from Americans. not one mentions the word Christmas. Each

one, infuriatingly, bangs on about this absurd thing called "the holidays".

Merry Christmas is now deemed to be too Christian by the "secular McCarthyiles" who patrol the boundaries of modern American culture. There are also Jews to be considered, and Muslims, Hindus, Confucians and atheists: so the greetings card police have decreed that the "sensitivities" of these groups must not been trampled on by

booligans baying the word "Christmas". J am ashamed to reveal that even the cards prepared for The Times's bureau here conform to local specifications. This is what they say: "It's a real pleasure at this holiday time to wish you a full year of happiness and prosperity." Sickened by this capitulation. I have taken to crossing the message out and writing a proper Christmas greeting in its

But mine is a lost battle. "Shock-horror" Christian symbols such as creches and scenes of Bethlehem are absent from the windows of department stores. In a desire not to offend non-Christian groups. Bergdorf Goodman, the Fifth Avenue luxury store, has this year featured a display of "legends, goddesses, heroines and divas"

It is worse still in the multi-ethnic classrooms of fin-de-siècle New York. Take the case of Packer-Collegiate, an affluent prep school in Brooklyn. A friend who sends her small daughters there tells me they have abolished the end-of-term Christmas pageant and replaced it with a "winter sing".

My friend went last week to see her sevenyear-old perform. The hall was packed and the programme was conducted by the school's "diversity co-ordinator". Naturally there were no Christmas carols

at this "winter sing" thing: no Silent Night. no Away in a Manger. Instead. flabbergasted parents heard their offspring render a Congolese harvest song, a Sephardic birthday tune, several "native American" items and a song about cats.

I mentioned this to Bill Donahue, the

president of the Catholic League, and he said: "That's typical. There is an intoxication now with multiculturalism in its most perverted form. Everyone tries hard not to offend the other religions, but no one cares il Christians are offended

Christmas was once an uncomplicated period in New York. I, as a child who went to school in the city in the 1960s, can recall taking part in nativity plays without teachers worrying about my parents' "Hin-du sensibilities". But Christmas has now become a prolonged tightrope walk for paranoid New Yorkers. To carol or not to carol? To greet or not to greet?

Holiday schmoliday, I say. For Heaven's sake, bring back a proper Christmas.

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### Working mums, big bad bosses and the tender gender trap

about cases that women bring against employers on the strength - or weakness, it seems disputed - of their being women. No one appears to be able to get it right. We want to be treated as workers. irrespective of our sex. And yet we seem to feel that a certain amount of respect is due on that very account.

I'm not being Backlash Betty about all this. It's true I feel embarrassed fairly often about the whingeing of the sisters, who have no shame in presenting themselves as charse 1000s reworkings of Victorian muidens, ciutching

ALWAYS get uncomfortable hankles and suling employers for offending their natural designey. But to reduce feminism to the militantly pathetic. almost paranoid poor-me brigade would be, to me, just as unpalatable. For this reason, I am uncharacteristically cheered by Natusha Walter's The New Feminism, even if I feel that those who write leminist strategies for childcare before they have children are at an irredeemable disadvantage. Anyone can re a good feminist before they have children. It is after, when it is for real, that it gets

difficult -- and more interest-

ty here. Female employees rightly mind when they are ing. And it is the children

Party on: Christmas, once a family occasion, increasingly focuses on the office

#### thing, here, that has come up A former policewoman is suing her former employers for failing to consider her duties as a mother. She was asked to work at short notice

mas pudding.

her babysitter could mind the baby: her inspector refused to change the rota accordingly. not given the promotion they feel that they deserve because She cites discrimination. Her employers suggest that since they are pregnant or have children. It is not, they state. many in the police force, men and women, have children for their employers to worry about their personal obligasimply couldn't cope. The tions to their children. So how former policewoman declares can we then demand that our this "an insuit". She claims employers take those obliand this is meant to bolster her gations into account when it case? - that the incident left And yet, clearly, those with

children (and notionally, at any rate, this is true of both male and female employees) do have to find some way of reconciling their domestic duties, their home life, with their work schedules and they -we are never going to be able to do this satisfactorily without

the compliance of employers. The fact that people do manage - as the plaintiff's employers point out - is only partly an excuse. But I'm not sure one can expect much more. Life is hard, and while we should expect to be treated fairly if not sensitively for the latter, one should have nothing but gratitude), it can never actually be our employer's job to make it easier.

• IN THE past it has been said that what we are really celebrating is the New York Jewish Christmas — that is to say, the whole American mall thing: bright lights, too much tinsel: the entire sugary, sentimental commercial package. Well. Christmas - the rituals rather than the reason for it is not just for Christians (and see above) but I had not realised quite how far melting-pot ecumenicalism had gone. I now do. Selfridges food hall stocks a kosher Christmas pudding. Beyond parody.

## Nigella

Office frolics

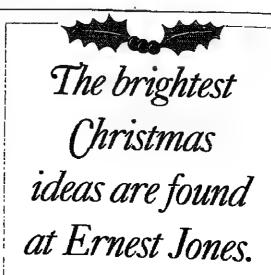
IT OCCURS to me that we no longer really celebrate Christmas but, rather, have returned to the more ancient rituals of Saturnalia — which. you will remember, was when the servants were allowed to rampage riotously about the place at the expense of the masters - which the Christian festival usurped. I make this remark not because I am struck by the godlessness of the season (as a Christmas-

relebrating atheist. Jewish to boot. I am hardly in a position

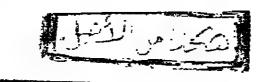
to mind that) but because I cannot help noticing that Christmas, except for the day itself, no longer takes place in the home but in the office. If, like me, you do not have

an office life, Christmas could almost pass you by, Indeed, if it were not for my nearbankruptcy. I would hardly notice it was Christmas. But anyone who works in an office has been celebrating for about the past fortnight, if not month: lunches, parties, funny hats, drunkenness; and no office or employer could hope to get away without providing all of that now. It is, almost officially, the season for ceremonial workplace revelry.

And when in Rome ... A friend. a self-employed journalist like me, now issues invitations for his own "office Christmas party". Somehow, without one one feels that one isn't really celebrating



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amas

CEMBER 24

Joe Joseph and Grace Bradberry give some seasonal advice on children, trees, party games, food and last-minute gifts

## Christmas off the cuff

### (or how to cope in an emergency)

Every aunt, if fed enough liquor, becomes aurusing. If not, pour yourself more liquor.

Doddery uncles are trickier. Do what I did last
year — I bought an aged, almost deaf uncle a
Walkman and told him it was a revolutionary new hearing aid. Plug the earpiece into his ear - but first tell him that you want to remind him of the plot of Moby Dick. Then insert into

the Walkman a tape of Martin Jarvis reading Moby Dick and hope that your uncle thinks he is listening to you taking him through the story. This can keep him occupied for up to six hours mot suitable for uncles prone to Children are more difficult to amuse once

the excitement of present opening has died. While young children may make their own.

puts the burden of ingenuity on the adults.
Stopping them causing havoc is the main challenge the low point usually comes when you discover that the Tracey Emin tent your wife hought you for Christmas after seeing it in the Royal Academy's Sensations exhibition has been invaded by eight children who are holding a cowboys and Indians tea party in it.

The dispiriting aspect of children is that their othusiasm for the trappings of Christmas is still bubbling brightly long after your own has waned. If their general mood of optimism starts grating, why not teach them that life has its downside, too, by taking them into a quiet room and fleecing them at poker? In my experience, children can never remember

#### DECORATIONS

CAUGHT short on Christmas Eve because you can't find the tree decorations you gently wrapped up in tissue paper last January, carefully packed into a large box, carried up the ladder. poshed through the hatch and then hurled into a dark corner of the attic?

Never mind: improvise. Professional florists charge wads of cash for strings of dried red chillies and slices of orange that they have shoved in their Agas over-night. You could do the same. Or sew together a long string of shiny Quality Street chocolates and drape it around the tree (do not use Maltesers; they just make a mess when you try to push

the needle through them).
Other colourful foodstuffs work just as well, such as popcorn, chopped-up squares of leftover Despino's chips that have been dipped in tomato sauce (more fe tive colour!) and spinach fettucine, cooked al dente and then hung over branches of the tree (no pasta sauce,

obviously). Lazily draped fried eggs can create an intriguing Daliesque effect. Use stiffly beaten egg white, cream cheese or creme traiche tfull far; the low fat doesn't keep its consistency) on branches as fake snow. Caster sugar, sprinkled over the tree from above, is also good, Tip: mayonnaise may look fine initially as fake snow drifts, but it soon vellows. turning into gobbets of ochre and making your tree look like an enormous cotton bud that has been used to

tcrub out a giant's earwax.) Obviously, beef on the bone is out this Christmas, decoration-wise. But carrots are colourful, if you can find them still attached to their stalks (handy for hanging them up), and also make a healthy snack for peckish family members. Lights are a trickier proposition. However, try to ay your hands on a few flashing rear bicycle lights at least if they fuse, they won't blow the whole house.

#### FAUX CRACKERS

YOU KNOW you have joined the underclass when you cannot afford crackers. It is the sort of thing that can scar a family's collective memory for merations, such as The Time We Drank Liebfraumilch, and The Christmas We Dug Up Our Tree From The Side Of The Motorway.

So you forgot. Who will ve you? Far better to talk airily about a rebellion against the commercialisation of the festive season, then back the remark up with some impromptu creativity.

First visit your chemist and buy keyrings for the men, and lipsticks or nail varnish for the women, thus ensuring that your crackers will at least be personalised. Next, pop to the garage and buy chocolates and sweets, before making the paper hats, following the diagram on the right. Now you must write the jokes. In strictly adult company, you can let rip. Otherwise, use the following, which more than fulfil the seasonal need for sub-stan-

What do you call a girl who stands between two goalposts?

Why did the robber take a On their fingers.

game assumes that players know each other) is written on slips of paper, put into a har and mixed up. Every player then picks out a name (if it is their own, they must return it and pick another). On another piece of paper, each person writes down the most irritating trait of the person whose name he has plucked from the hat, then puts this new piece of paper in the hat. These character sketches are then picked out of the hat and read aloud: players win one point for guessing who is being described, and two more points if they are courageous enough to suggest who wrote the description. These point totals are trebled if both parts are guessed correctly by the person who is actually being described.

I. EVERYONE'S name (this

2. Players divide into teams. ach team then begins a limerick, which the other side satire and vulgarity. Here are

YOU RETURN to the house this afternoon to find that a foul odour has percolated through the house. Upon in-

vestigation you discover that your favourite auntie has surreptitiously turned the heating up in every room, including the kitchen. The pantry, hitherto freezing, is now lukewarm. So is the turkey. So warm is it, in fact, that you would fear it had been resuscitated but for the maledorous steach of rotting giblets. Your. uncle will now have a perfect excuse for his annual performance of Christmas Day In The Workhouse — a tradition you had hoped to scotch once and for all.

What to do? You arrive at the supermarket at 4.30pm. Every turkey, not to mention every goose and duck, has been swept from the shelves. If you are lucky, there will be a few packs of unseasonable ostrich, now relatively common. Failing that, beef or lamb can both be roasted with pretty much the same trimmings. Beef should be roasted for 20 minutes in the hottest oven possible, then 20 to 25 minutes per pound at 190C, gas mark 5. If you have a leg of New Zealand lamb in the freezer, then cover it with rosemary and roast it at 200C, gas mark 6, for 20 minutes per pound, plus 20 minutes to finish. Half an hour before the end pour 200ml/7fl oz of red wine over the top, then make gravy using one tablespoon of fat, brown stock and a teaspoon of redcurrant

And so, this done, you wake on Christmas Day, smug in the knowledge that yours is an unusual and tasty Christmas feast. Worse is in store. Your 13-year-old niece, Evie, arrives at midday, her complexion white, her eyes puffy

a couple to set you on your

And honeymooned in the Caribbean, His first night was bliss.

General; funeral, His big trust was offshore,

General knowledge quiz. You don't necessarily have a deck of cards handy, but you always have cash --- or at least an IOU. Chailenge other players to answer questions for specific amounts of cash.

Even naming all the planets becomes exciting if there's:£50 riding on it. To get you going, east, Edinburgh or Carlisle?

#### ROTTEN TURKEY

encounter with a vivisectionist - and read his wretched pamphlet. Meat is off the menu. For ever. Her mother also fears she may be anorexic. It is imperative that you provide tempting vegetarian fare - and quickly.

Luckily, it is possible to knock up Cordon-bleu souffles with the ingredients in your store cupboard. First, haive an onion and place it in a saucepan with a pint of milk. Add a baylest and simmer, then strain the milk. Next melt 20z (50g) of butter in a pan, stir in 20z (50g) of self-raising flour and cook for one minute. Add the hot milk gradually, stirring continuously.

Thicken the sauce slightly and leave on a very

low heat for three minutes Pour the sauce into a large mixing bowl and beat in four size 2 egg yolks (save the whites). If you have any chives, strip them up and add a tablespoon to the mix. Stir everything together, then fold in 60z (175g) of mature Cheddar cheese chopped into very small cubes. If you have any sun-dried tomatoes, add a handful. chopped, to the mixture at this stage. Whisk the egg whites to the soft-peak stage and fold them dually into the cheese and egg mixture Divide the mixture between eight buttered ramekins, place them in a roasting tin and pour boiling water around them. Bake them on a high shelf at 180C, gas mark 4, for 15 minutes until they are springy. Cool them, then chill until needed. Finally, remove the souffles from their ramekins and place on a buttered baking sheet. Chop up 2oz (50g) of goat's cheese and sprinkle on top. Then cook at 200C.

# HOW TO MAKE A PAPER HAT

from charging? Take away its

Finally, dig out some parcel

ribbon and eight paper nap-kins. Place the joke, paper hat,

gift and a chocolate inside the

napkin. Wrap the paper

round, then secure with string

element missing — the bang.

For this (depending on the

atmosphere of joilification in

your dining room), you could

supply everyone with a paper

bag, then ask them to blow it

up, twist the opening closed

and burst it as their fellow

at either end. There is only one

credit cards.

Because he wanted to make a clean getaway. .... How do you know when it's raining cats and dogs? . When you step in a poodle. What's a skeleton detective

called? Sherlock Bones. What do you call a man who lives in a rabbit hutch?

Doctor, Doctor, I think I'm turning into a snooker bail. I'm sorry, sir, you'll have to go to the end of the queue. . How do monsters count to 53? How do you stop a rhinoceros revellers pull the crackers.

PRESENTS

FORGOTTEN cousins, your children's newly acquired and hitherto unmentioned boy-friends/girlfriends, work colleagues who pitch up on Christmas Eve proffering presents - it seems there is always someone on the door step expecting to be plied with last-minute gifts. In such situations head for

chemists', 24-hour garages and off-licences. The former usually have scented candles (great for maiden aunts), and those disposable cameras that provide some entertainment for even the stroppiest adoles cent. There are underwater versions (children might enjoy using these in the swimming pool) and some with built-in flash. It doesn't matter if the recipient owns a £2,000 Leica - a throwaway camera will always be popular for New Year's Eve parties because it can be lost with impunity. A decent garage should be able to supply packs of five blank videos — always useful. If these options fail, try the offlicence for a bottle of champagne, or pop down to the cinema and buy two tickets for the dead period between Christmas and new year or, even better, a voucher.



Children are more difficult to amuse once the excitement of present opening has died. Stopping them causing havoc is the main challenge



## A time of tranquil ceremony

John Bayley finds repose in

the calm routine of Christmas

who decided to spend Christmas in Istanbul. "To eat our turkey in Turkey, they explained. I, without being as tiresome or as witty as that, would rather avoid, or at least deflect, the festive season.

Yet Christmas does seem an appropriate time for passivity. for abnegation of the will. Mary and Joseph could do nothing about it — why should we? Why not give way to the blessed. or at least timehonoured, routines? A service, a snooze, rather more to drink than usual, and something good to eat.

Christmas can provide us with the tranquil ceremony, with the time for quietness, for which, perhaps, we yearn. The striking thing about the nation's mourning for Diana. Princess of Wales, was the calm with which it all took place. The grievers were rather like good children folding their hands in bedtime prayer. And today the tranquillising power of ritual is even being emphasised by psychotherapists who themselves have no belief in any religion, and who until recently would have denied that their patients had any need for it either.

Over the festive season the world can find calmness for a few days. London streets are tranquil and pleasant to stroll in. Even the sky seems quieter. Looking up, one can see the same old vapour trails, the aeroplanes winging their purposeful way through the more silent than usual.

For years my wife and I have taken the same walk every Christmas - into Kensingtun Gardens and past the Round Pond. The scenery is at its best on a bright winter's morning. We wander on down to the Serpentine and the little hollow where Peter Pan plays narcissistically upon his pipes while a determined young lady scrambles over the plinth to attempt a flirtation, giving the bystander an attractive view of her polished derrière. The illusion of Christmas is eign voices impinge melodiously from afar, as if Wenceslas was having a quiet chat with his page on the way back home. Even the hordes of Canada geese stand meditatively, less vociferous than is

Coming home to a snug lunch - usually sardines and bacon and eggs — a certain amount to drink and a good rest, a feeling of quite unspiritual peacefulness prolongs itself in the mild night air. The increasing warmth of winter in London seems more noticeable now - how many years since it snowed at Christmas?

l ask my wife. Iris, if she can remember. She can't. She is tranquilly enjoying the Christmas repose, looking forward to getting back to work on her novel or her book on philoso-

phy on after Boxing Day. But wait a moment ... that was years ago ... she doesn't remember any of it now. Yet our Christmas rituals go onwards the same, a peaceful and piessed routine. Routine is a saving necessity for the many elderly people who suf-

Te had friends once fer fading memory and the who decided to illness which has now been recognised as Alzheimer's, the illness which my wife now has. For her, routine provides a substitute for memory. It soothes the anxieties of a husband who has come to dread more than anything more even than the tears and the sentences without meaning - the questions "Where are we? Who is coming? What are we doing now?"

We aren't doing anything. but someone or something is coming, and the happy silence it brings with it makes no demands. Familiarity can take over from memory, up to a point. We have done all the usual things. We shall continue for a while to do them. Iris is content, and asks no questions. We turn on the wireless and listen to some carols and Christmas music. Even Radio 3 is behaving itself.

An eeric aspect of the illness

which my wife now suffers is that the partner too begins to share the sense of memory loss, or rather the illusion that things have always been the same, and have never changed. I cannot now imagine lris any different from the way she is. She is just the same: I feel just the same about her. All my life I seem to have been watching the Teletubbies at ten o'clock in the morning — the blue Teletubby sky, the sunlit grass. Pondering the Teletubbies seems to be my life, or to have become it - we have only had the television for six months. (t can give me the odd feeling that no one dies, that death, as Wittgenstein said, cannot be a human experience. Or in the immortal words of Mrs Eardley, one of Anthony Powell's sublimely comic creations from A Dance to the Music of Time - "there is only merging, synthesis, reformation, reappearance".

ratching television may well cause one to think so. Dreamily. I even abandon my cross decision to write and complain about the fiendish perversity of the director of Radio 3, who seems to think we want verbal antics, chit-chat, rubbishy dialogue just at those moments of the day - teatime, supportime - when calm uninterrupted music is surely what is needed.

What does it matter? The spirit of goodwill pervades me. or rather is programmed into my brain, if I still have one under the present regime. My wife and I must both of us do the same things — watch together since we cannot talk together, fulfil in our own way the admirable advice the Reverend Sydney Smith once gave to a parishioner who was suffering from depression. Take short views - never further than dinner or tea." Such advice is easily taken over these few ritualised days. It is the old saving routine of Christmas, which for us has

The author is retired Wharton Professor of English at Oxford novelist and philosopher Iris Murdoch who has been suffering for more than two years from Alzheimer's disease.

now become twice blessed.



The monastery of Lastingham on the North York Moors, where Yorkshire people have for centuries found refuge and spiritual reassurance.

## Sermons in the stones

The monastery of Lasting-bam, cleft deep in the North York Moors, chills the bones at this time of year. Buried beneath its chancel lies an ancient crypt, built by Norman invaders to the memory of an even earlier denizen of this place, the 7th-century missionary, St Cedd. It is one of England's most intimate shrines, hacked from the ground in a spot that even the Venerable Bede considered fit only for "wild beasts and men who live like beasts". The crypt is a tiny grotto of columns with simply carved capitals, encrusted

On my last visit, someone had placed lines from Eliot's Little Gidding at the crypt entrance. The

"You are not here to verify, instruct yourself or inform curiosity. You are here to kneel where prayer has been valid.

The communication of the dead is tongued with fire beyond the Here, the intersection of the timeless moment is England and nowhere."

Rarely does word and stone mix so well as Eliot in Lastingham crypt. Most English churches are works of vernacular architecture. We approach them impressed by their age and fascinated by the additions of each generation of parlshioners. To non-believers, a church is a building whose purpose is inherently unknown. It is one more temple in a secular forum. Furnishings such as font, altar, screen, rood and piscina are beautiful yet devoid of meaning. Their beauty can be admired but not the reason for the beauty. Their appeal is the weaker for that.

There are a few churches which in my experience contrive to transcend this limitation. They have power to fulfil Eliot's edict and force even the most sceptical visitor to his knees. In their case, architecture and history have conspired together to drive reason from the argument and substitute a sensation that I can only call awe. The tiny downland church of Up Marden in Sussex is one such building. On each visit I have found it strangely more than what at first it seems, the simplest of stone cells hidden in a hillside clearing. It is Just occasionally one finds a church with

the power to bring the sceptic to his knees

and send the atheist on his way in doubt

infused with a genius loci that I can never define.

Likewise Patrington church in Holderness. It can never be just a forest of Decorated arches rich with 14th-century sculpture. Lost in a geographical appendix, this most supreme of Gothic parish churches seems on the brink of departing this Godless world and ascending direct to Heaven. Or Gunwalioe church. half buried by sand on a Cornish beach with waves crashing at its door, more than testifies to the privations of medieval hermits.

Only stones bonded by faith can held back storms for half a millennium. These churches are. like Lastingham, shrines whose atmosphere manages to shift the burden of proof. They send

the atheist on his way enveloped in I admit to liking old churches chiefly because they are old. The journey to Lastingham from the Scarborough road is a drive from tarmac and traffic, past bungalows and tended meadows to an immaculate picture village. Everything seems of a piece, even nature. The church is a glorious shock. Despite Victorian restoration, glowing relics of antiqui-ty are embedded in its fabric. Crumbling limestone vaults and tooled capitals, damp tiles and drip-

against the backdrop of bleak moorland, marvels of sheer longevity. Like most people, I draw comfort from having round me such reliquaries of history. If devotion to the past is, as David Lowenthall has written, "a self-conscious creed whose shrines and icons daily multiply and whose praise suffuses public discourse" I plead the faith. James Lees-Milne once wrote that taking up the cause of

ping corbels have cheated a thousand

years of pillage and decay. Walls rise

old buildings was "like being in Holy Orders". Yet such buildings do more than please the eye by the softness of their contours. They offer a window on yesterday, the better to under-

stand today. Parish churches are communities made stone. They were phenomena of social as well as physical engineering. They made intense claims on the tithes, labour and materials of every man, woman and child, requiring a huge diversion of resources from the necessities of medieval life.

These structures were to the towns and villages of England undertak-

ings as colossal as were the pyramids to Egypt. Nothing of equivalent siz was attempted ever again. Even the cathedrais were unsurpassed until the age of steam. Love of antiquity is not intellectually

shrivelling. Modernists might regard it as the sign of deranged imagination, in Lowen-thall's words "signalling an eclipse of reason and a regression to embattled tribalism". To such people, affection for the past is hatred of the present and fear of the future. It is morbid. Yet all societies find ways of venerating their past. Marxists worship a book. The Japanese worship their ancestors. William Morris was no conservative in regarding churches as "sacred monuments of the nation's growth and hope". The past may be a foreign country through which we travel as strangers. But travel still broadens the mind.

Even this does not explain the appeal of those churches I have found special. Their exteriors may be picturesque or awesome, but they are not more than features in the landscape. Like the towers of Somerset, they may evoke a cry of pleasure, but the pleasure is visual. It is the interiors which are different. They evoke not a cry but a silence. They render us speechless, as if indeed "the communication of the dead is tongued with fire beyond the language of the

living".

When people are dead I believe them to be dead. When a church. guide asks me to consider "how many eet have walked over these stones". I find the consideration banal. What is not banal is the sentiment that motivated those feet, the witness those churches bear to the part religion played in millions upon

Whether this religion is seen by some as superstition does not matter. People piled stone on stone, pillar rising to arch, arch to spire, not for shelter or security but for consolation in this life and the hope of a better life hereafter. The spire in William Golding's novel of that name soared not just towards a priest's ambition but towards a God in whom that ambition was passionately rooted. We do not have to believe in that God to marvel at what belief in Him England. We can feel the faith in

from out of the forests and across the moors, Yorkshire people made their way to Lastingham in fair weather and foul. They found there a home from home, a place of refuge from the anguish of life, a reassurance that all was to some purpose. They built and repaired the church with their own sweat. They entrusted it with their births, marriages and deaths. In its porch they swore on oath, did business and gave thanks. The church embodied their identity as a community, as it still does. Everyone knows their church.

Nobody can regard such places as so much vegetable and mineral, or appreciate them as a regression to tribalism. Parish churches embody the continuity of human imagination evolving over centuries. They are the true British museum, a museum of beliefs, hopes and fears as well as of artefacts. Some regard them as infused with God. I regard them as infused with people. Both views honour Eliot's concept of valid prayer, when "the tongues of flame are infolded into the crowned knot of fire, and the fire and the rose are one."

### Alan Coren



Tis Yul-tide, and I am bid to Christie's

The man beside me was interested in Yul Brynner's hat. Indeed, he was so interested in Yul Brynner's hat that he was beside himself, too. He could hardly sit still. although he would have to try. because the hat wasn't scheduled to turn up for an hour, and if the man beside me didn't sit still, with, moreover, his hands in his lap, he might easily wind up, willy-nilly, with Ingrid Bergman's earrings or Edward G. Robinson's cabin trunk. Because they do not muck about at Christie's, they are there to shift shiff as sparryilly as possible. shift stuff as snappily as possible (in this instance last week's movie memorabilia) and every member of the huge crowd would have to take extreme care not to distinguish himself inadvertently from the rest of that crowd if he didn't want to wind un standing in the South Kensington street with Stanley Holloway's grand piano and a receipt for whatever the bidding had reached when he incau-tiously blew his nose.

Since you ask, I was not interested in Yul Brynner's hat. I was not even interested in Ingrid Bergman's earrings, Edward G. Robinson's cabin trunk, or Stanley Holloway's Bluthner, even though it was offered with a matching stool. I was interested only in a 10x8in photograph of Laurel and Hardy, signed by both, because Christmas was coming and my ideas were getting thin, and it would be just the ticket for someone dear to me, provided the ticket would be no dearer to me than the estimated £200. It was Lot 37. At 2pm, the auctioneer said hello, and Lot 1 came up. A

signed postcard of circusmonger

Phineas T. Barnum. All I knew of Barnum was his observation that there was a sucker born every minute, a judgment which when his postcard was knocked down for £403, seemed to me to have borne the test of time rather well, but the man who was interested in Yul Brynner's har said there wasn't much Barnum about, and I said are you a dealer, and he said no. I just collect Yul, and I thought: how can a man who is interested only in Yul Brynner know how much Barnum there is about? I became so enwrapped in this that I missed Sir Henry Irving's gloves, but I recovered in time for Cole Porter's engraved cigarette case, which went for what seemed to be a snip at £300, until the man who cared only for Yul Brynner's hat told me that Cole Porter had owned 1,200 cigarette cases. Since this, surely, could not have been true of Edward G. Robinson's monogrammed cabin trunk, I confessed myself amazed when this was bought in at £170 - Edward G. Robinson, I said, Listle Caesar, Double Indemnity, you cannot buy a cabin trunk in John Lewis for £170, but Yul Brynner's hat-man said. Edward G. Robinson was not collectible. don't ask him why. Not that I would have had time to, because suddenly it was Lot 37, and I was waving my catalogue, but I dropped out at £200, and Stan and Ollie went for £300, and I said, stone me, it's only a photo, and the man beside me said, yes, and there are probably 10,000 like that, but they re very, yes, I said, I understand, very collectible, and he said right, and I said this means there are three million poundsworth of Laurel and Hardy photographs in the world, you could swap them for HMY Britannia, and he said why would you want to do that?

o I shut up, and a pair of Ursula Andress's trousers went for E75, with a pair of her boots thrown in, and I said it's a funny old world, but he wasn't listening, because the next lot was the black stetson Yul Brynner wore in The Magnificent Seven, and the man beside me was suddenly a thing possessed, his arm going up and down like a beam engine as the bidding raced through a thousand, and two, and ... but, heartbreakingly, the thing possessed was destined never to possess the thing that possessed him, because he slumped at £4,000, the arm fell into his lap, and Yul Brynner's hat, a moment later, went for £5,175.

The man got up, and lurched exitwards. I left, too; there was no more for me there, I didn't want Richard Burton's mink coat or Sean Connery's tuxedo, I wanted only to ask the man why a Yul Brynner stetson was worth 300 Edward G. Robinson cabin trunks, but when I got outside, he was leaning on Christie's wall, dabbing at his eyes. So I hurried off, in the opposite direction. I hope he didn't stand there too long. Sleet was beginning to fall, and he didn't have a

### Blue gold

A DISTANT outpost of the Tory party is enjoying a financial windfall that would impress even a City broker flush with his Christmas bonus. Aylesbury Conservative Association, which bangs the drum for David Lidington, the area's MP and William Hague's parliamentary aide, receives a steady income from an investment worth up to £2 million. But the financial wizardry is attracting the demon eyes of Lord Parkinson, the party chairman, who is valiantly seeking to plug a £500,000 hole in its

bank balance. Very wisely, the association will not divulge how it built up its crock of gold. But my friends in Aylesbury tell me that it derives from a canny purchase of land in the town in the 1950s, now the site of a large insurance building. The money pays for some of Lidington's election literature and campaigns in nearby margin-

Despite its generosity, the association jealously guards its right to control the money, putting it in conflict with the party's attempts to modernise. In his Christmas message to the faithful, Hague has promised the biggest shake-up since Benjamin Disraeli. One option is to give Parkinson direct control over his rebellious prov-inces and their coffers. Lidington is keeping well out of this one for fear of inciting his local blue-rinse brigade, and who can blame him?

◆ TO THE chapel at Eton College for a carol service to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Relief. Lessons

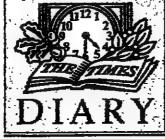


Lidington, Parkinson

were read by Lord Carrington, the Duchess of Devonshire. Sir Antony Acland and, yes. Ronnie Corbett. I'm told an organiser liked the comedian's "gravelly" voice.

#### Mugging up

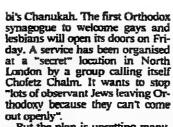
LLEW SMITH, the Welsh devolution rebel, has the perfect Christmas present for his revolting colleagues. He is hawking mugs bearing the image of Nye Bevan, the socialist hero who resigned in 1951 over proposals to introduce



NHS charges. "Several of the bene-fit rebels have bought them, including Ann Clwyd and Alice Mahon." gushed Smith. But surely no minister would purchase the subversive memento? Dawn Primarolo, the former leftwinger, has been spotted sipping tea from her Bevan mug while fulfilling her

• STRANGE tastes those Boers: Earl Spencer, brother of Diana. Princess of Wales, has been named the second most cligible bachelor in South Africa after Nelson Mandela. The South African edition of Cosmopolitan hails him as being "very rich, very well-connected, and very available". His former wife. Victoria. would no doubt agree with that.

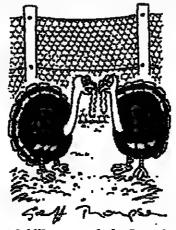
#### Everbody's out IT'S enough to ruin the Chief Rab-



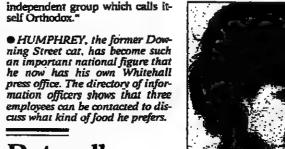
out openly".

But the plan is upsetting many.

Dayan Gershon Loplan, a judge on the Jewish court, calls it "a travesty of normal, Orthodox Judaism". Dr Jonathan Sacks, the Chief Rabbi, is keeping his skullcap down. The service won't be on United Synagogue premises," one of his sidekicks says. "It must be an



"I'd like to watch the Queen's GLORY may yet be restored to the Christmas message live"



#### **Duty calls**

self Orthodox.

DON'T panic: Tony Blair will remain in charge over Christmas. Although the Prime Minister will spend the festive season at Chequers. No 10 is stressing that he will be on duty throughout. Sadly, this means no repeat of last summer's highly entertaining pantomime, in which John Prescott and Peter Mandelson each attempted their own coups d'etat.

With Blair firmly at the helm. Cabinet ministers wishing to im-press the PM should not stray too far from the telephone. Mo Mowlam, for one, has let it be known that she will certainly be "on duty" throughout the holiday period. We shall no doubt all be hugely relieved by the news.

### Hallelujah!

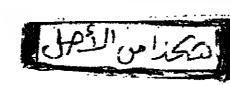
struggling Royal Opera House.



After turning down all previous offers from the stuffed tuxedos at Covent Garden, the Italian soprano Cecilia Bartoli has agreed to open a season and sing the lead in one of Handel's less celebrated operas. Rinaldo.

The Opera House, which has been facing endless problems, including having to camp out in low-rent digs such as the Royal Albert Hall, will be pulling out all the stops to impress. And, on that happy note, I wish all my readers an excellent Christmas.

JASPER GERARD





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### A BIRTH IN BETHLEHEM

'When the fullness of time was come God sent forth His Son...'

As the march of months to the millennium our own days. For that birth is the story becomes more insistent, so too does our awareness of time moving and passing. From birth to death we are creatures of time. shaped by a period of years - by the age into which we are born, and by the past of family. nation and history, that has formed us in ways both conscious and unconscious. To be without the marking of time is to lose our identity. To live simply in the present is elusive and illusory. Our history, our story, is woven into the fabric of our lives. We find our identity by telling our story, the story that is ours alone to tell, but which can only be told in its intersection with other stories, other personal patterns of meaning and purpose. So we find ourselves persistently propelled on a quest to find an overarching story in which we may discover our full meaning and identity.

Year by year, just before the year's turning we tell the story of a birth - the birth of Jesus, whose name means Saviour, and who is called "the Christ", the "anointed one" of God. But uniquely the story of that birth is told not as an obituary notice or a biographer might tell it, but as Gospel -"Good News" - told from the perspective of an ending that is not death but resurrection, when death itself was blown open to the overwhelming hope of a new order. God's

The Greek words for time used in the New Testament are kairos, the moment of significant time, of promise, of change and challenge, and chronos, the regular, rhyth-mic ticking of the clock, the steady invariable elapse of sequence. To discern the kairos, to find not just sequence but history, is to see beneath the surface to a deeper significance and movement. So St Paul speaks of the kairos of Jesus's birth in a powerful metaphor, as the moment when the fullness of time was come, the chronos, the regular patterning, crowds and comes to a fall. Just as Hopkins thus saw his life like sand in an hourglass, so time itself comes to a moment like a birth. For this moment of incarnation is the defining moment of time. From it we measure the millennium. In it we measure

which gives meaning to our lives. And why? Because that story is the story of the appearing of the One who created time, within time. It is no less than the selfemptying of the divine love into the heart of human history, expressing in that selfgiving the love for which time and history were made. In this way, choosing to stand where we are, being born as we are born, coming into our world with all its ambiguity, knowing creation from the inside, God wills to draw us to Himself, from the darkness of sin into His marvellous light.

The New Testament celebrates that wonder and that mystery, in a rich variety of ways. It is the meaning behind the simple story of a birth in the dung and straw of an outhouse at Bethlehem; it is the song of praise of the angelic armies of Heaven, who had shouted for joy at creation; it is expressed in the humble response of faith of Mary, the village girl of Nazareth, in and through whom God comes into the world; it is behind the worship of shepherds, and the pilgrimage of wise men.

To those who say that so much of the familiar Christmas story is embroidery, we must needs reply that such embroidery is what embroidery always is, an enhance-ment in beauty of an underlying pattern and meaning. The meaning of this story we indeed know only in part, seeing through a glass darkly. For the truth of the incarnation is a love which was lived. And it is a truth we

likewise know only by living.

For if God has indeed made us for Himself, there is no more truly human way of living than by the following of Jesus Christ in the power of His Spirit. It is for this that God's grace is poured into our hearts. and received in the bread and wine of the Eucharist. Over again the dark night wakes, the glory breaks and Christmas comes once more, drawing us by its magic and its mystery to put our life's trust in the reality of the God who came to us at Bethlehem and tookd us by the hand. O Holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us we pray; Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.

#### **BAD TIDINGS FROM THE EAST**

Korea and Japan threaten a 1930s-style depression

While Tony Blair, Bill Clinton and the rest of us enjoy our Christmas holidays tomorrow, politicians and bankers in two of the world's most important industrial economies will be burning the midnight oil. In Japan and Korea financial markets are open for business over Christmas. But this year, it will be anything but business as usual. Both Korea and Japan are facing financial crises -- on a scale which the world has not witnessed since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Korea's predicament was candidly described yesterday by Kim Dae Jung, the country's President-elect: "We don't know whether we will go bankrupt tomorrow or the day after tomorrow. I cannot sleep since I was briefed about the country's financial situation. I am totally flabbergasted." This disarmingly frank remark immediately wiped 14 per cent off the value of the Korean won and 7.5 per cent off the Seoul stockmarket. But it seemed an honest reflection on the country's desperate state.

The 60 per cent devaluation of the won since November has pushed Korea down from the level of Spain to that of Turkey in the world's economic ranking. More importantly, it has destroyed the country's entire financial and business structure. Banks and industrial conglomerates which had eagerly borrowed "cheap" dollars and yen in the international markets have faced a doubling of the value of their foreign loans in terms of won. Since they now have no hope of repaying their enlarged foreign borrowings, Mr Kim's reference to impend-

ing national bankruptcy was all too apt. In Tokyo, meanwhile, the Nikkei stock market average has just closed for the first time in years below the 15,000 mark. If it breaches the low-point of 14,200 established in 1992, perhaps as soon as Christmas morning, it could set off a chain reaction leading to the insolvency of up to half Japan's major banks, which are addictively

dependent on stock market profits to keep themselves afloat. With insolvent banks calling in their loans to commercial borrowers, the consequence could be an economic depression comparable to the one that hit America after 1929.

To make matters worse, the Japanese and Korean financial crises are closely intertwined. If Korean conglomerates fail to repay their foreign borrowings, the biggest losers will be the shaky Japanese banks. And if Japan continues to slide into depression and cuts back its imports, the biggest losers will be the over-indebted Korean conglomerates.

Something needs to be done quickly to stop this vicious circle. Fortunately, solutions to both the Japanese and Korean crises are at hand and perfectly clear to everyone outside Japan and Korea. The Korean Government must take responsibility for the foreign debts of its banks even if this means temporarily renationalising the entire banking system. Japan must act even more boldly, since it can afford to do so. The Japanese Government must close down its insolvent banks and repay their depositors with public money. Simultaneously, it must announce dramatic tax cuts to restore public confidence and encourage Japanese consumers to spend money.

Both Japan and Korea are fundamentally strong economies with enormous scope for rapid growth. Sooner or later they will reemerge as two of the world's leading industrial countries. But America was a fundamentally strong economy in 1929. This did not prevent it from suffering a decade of financially-induced depression. In a depression, government policy must heed Franklin Roosevelt's famous advice: "We have nothing to fear but fear itself". So far, the Japanese and Korean governments have been too paralysed by fear to act rationally. They must stop panicking and start acting.

#### A PLACE FOR PROTOCOL

The case for caution when modernising state visits

When protocol and spin collide which should take precedence? The decision by the Foreign Secretary to "modernise" state visits by downplaying tradition, emphasising the go-ahead and drafting in a personal propagandist reflects Robin Cook's understandable annoyance at the negative reporting of the Queen's visit to India. It was not just Mr Cook's amour propre which suffered. The Oueen did not 'scape whipping from some commentators and valuable trade initiatives were overshadowed. There are clearly lessons to be learnt from the episode, but Mr Cook should realise that protocol, like armour, may inhibit flexibility but it affords protection.

State visits have, generally, added lustre to the country's reputation and provided the Queen with an opportunity to fulfil her role as ambassador with aplomb. Over time a tradition of delicately choreographed personal contact and studiously apolitical speeches have created favourable mood music which allows the prosaic business of international problem-solving to be conducted more harmoniously. A jarring note was struck in India by the prominence given, through no fault of Mr Cook's, to his private diplomatic efforts to help with a resolution to the conflict in Kashmir. It was not an excess of protocol that offended, but an activist diplomatic stance.

Mr Cook apparently believes the India trip was blighted from the beginning by the decision to visit during the liftieth anniversary of independence. Determined that such errors should not harm future contacts, he wants to give the Foreign Office a greater role in planning state visits, at the expense of Buckingham Palace. Mr Cook has already. however, chosen to blame the last Government for planning the trip inexpertly. He cannot keep his mud and fling it.

If it was the Tories' fault that the trip was badly conceived, then the Palace does not deserve the implied rebuke of seeing its role limited in future. In any case, the traditional practices which he fears look "imperial" are the particularly gracious habits of monarchy which buy Britain's politicians a respect abroad that endures long after landslides have been eroded.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### welfare proposals

From Mr Frank Allaun

Sir, It is with dismay that I write this letter. The effect of the Government's plans for lone-parent families and the disabled, blind and sick has been so disastrous amongst Labour supporters - not to mention the victims that I am convinced that the proper course is for both measures to be withdrawn (letters, December 9, 13, 17, 18,

In many constituency Labour parties the vote against them has been unanimous. If the Bills ever reach the statute book the shame will never be forgotten. The lone-parents' Bill has had its third reading, but if the Lords amend the Bill it will have to come back to the Commons. The second plan has even more time to be scrap-

I know men and women who have worked hard and sacrificed for the Labour cause for the whole of their lives who are now filled with despair. "Have we wasted our years for this kind of thing?" they ask. Our front bench must know this very well. And to crown it all our leader tells us there is worse to come. If so it will destroy the Labour Party.

Yours sincerely FRANK ALLAUN (Labour MP, 1955-83), 11 Eastleigh Road, Manchester M25 OBO. December 22.

#### Royal finances

From Mrs Jennifer Miller

Sir, Valerie Elliott's report ("MPs win scrutiny of royal accounts", December 18) describes the latest episode in the harassment of our monarch over finances which has been going on for years. Meanwhile her Civil List has remained fixed at £7.9 million, although the Crown Estate profits quietly pocketed by the Treasury in exchange rose last year to a record £1029 million.

What happens to this vast and increasing source of government revenue taken from the Queen, and where are the detailed published accounts of its expenditure?

Yours faithfully, JENNIFER MILLER, 2 Heathview Gardens, Putney, SWI5 3SZ. December 18.

From Mr Edward Hay

Sir, There is something rather farcical about the Public Accounts Committee spending so much time examining the Royal Household's accounts. £40 million of "taxpayers' money" is an infinitesimal figure placed beside,

say, the Defence budget of £20 billion. It is hard not to believe the fuss is being orchestrated for political reasons; to ensure headlines for otherwise unknown Members of Parlia-

Yours etc. EDWARD HAY. 16 Worfield Street, SWII 3RD. December 18.

#### Leaders and led

From Dr P. H. Borcherds

Sir, In his letter on one member, one vote in the election of the Conservative leader (December 19; further letters December 22) is Sir Julian Critchlev not making the mistake of assuming that those attending the Conservative Party conference reflect the views of the party membership?

His description of the conference reminds me, if one replaces "Right" by "Left", etc. of meetings of the council of the Association of University Teachers (AUT), membership of which is determined by ill-attended local meetings (perhaps like membership of the Conservative conference?).

I have served on the national execu-

tive of the AUT for several years. Elections to it are by a ballot of all members. Its views are closer to those of the members and much less extreme than those of the council. Perhaps the same is true of the Conservatives.

The greatest problem is to persuade sufficient members to vote, so as to prevent the organisation being dominated by an unrepresentative minority with extreme views.

Yours sincerely. P. H. BORCHERDS, 71 Swarthmore Road, Birmingham B29 4NH. December 22.

#### Maxwell connection

From Mr George Depotex

Sir, As another of the many hired and fired by Robert Maxwell (letters, December 10 and 18) I know that it would have been impossible for anyone to have worked for him in a responsible position without knowing that he indulged in sharp practice. Newcomers to Pergamon were warned to count their fingers should Maxwell shake them by the hand.

When the truth was finally known an ex-colleague summed it up by saying that while we all knew he was a rogue, no one knew how crooked he really was.

Yours faithfully **GEORGE DEPOTEX** (Pergamon Press, 1968-74), 40 Camden Hurst, Pless Road, Milford-on-Sea SO41 0WL December 19.

### Labour 'despair' at Protect children from a life of crime

From Lord Hylson

Sir. The House of Lords debated and gave a second reading on December lo to the Government's Crime and Disorder Bill (letter, December 16). This measure reforms youth justice and is intended to help prevent antisocial behaviour and actual crime among youth and adults.

There are two points in the life of a child or young person which should give warning signals to all concerned and thus make the Bill more effective. The first occurs when a pupil is suspended, and perhaps later expelled from school, because he or she has become so unruly and disruptive as to hamper the education of others. It is then essential that alternative education or training is provided so that there is no gap inviting the expellee towards a lifetime of crime.

The second is the point at which a child is taken into the care of the local authority. We know that in 1996 there were over 51,000 such children in England, Some of them offend while in care and others drift into crime when they emerge from care and enter a harsh aduit world. It is no secret that there have been scandals and lapses affecting children in statutory children's homes. Foster placements and adoption can be successful, but do not always work well.

The inability of the school or the natural family to cope should call for co-operative action by relatives, neighbours, voluntary organisations and the appropriate agencies of local and central government. Early-warning systems would make such co-opera-

tion easier and more successful. Every effort should be made to prevent young people becoming institu-tionalised and thus prepared for a life-time of unemployability, homeless-

Social Exclusion Unit (report and leading article, December 9; letters, December 15) to examine urgently the breaking points mentioned above for both schools and families, because it approach will suffice?

If the agenda of the SEU is already commission an independent study of these areas of pressing need?

HYLTON, House of Lords. December 22.

From the Minister for Home Affairs

introduce the most far-reaching reforms of the youth justice system since the war. The specific measures which Frances Cook's letter highlights were the subject of extensive consultation both in opposition and in government and will equip the criminal justice system better to improve the quality of life for people in this country.

ALUN MICHAEL Home Office, December 17.

#### Privacy defended within a free press

freedom is to be defended (report, ber 17) — and the Government's Human Rights Bill contains a clause that will do just that. The Bill brings into British law the European Convention on Human Rights, already accessible to British citizens through the courts

Terry Waite knows more than most of us how powerful a tool the media can be as a force for good. By pubabout other hostages, the press helped to keep their case in the public eye.

But surely when they returned home, our need to know about their

needed to have reporters stationed on doorsteps, harassing their children, or using telephoto lenses to sneak a photo of a private moment. We needed to respect their privacy, and give them time to adjust to normal life after their The most powerful element of the Human Rights Bill is precisely this balance between the public's right to

lives came to an end? We no longer

know on the one hand and the individual's right to privacy on the other. If the rights of the individual are to be protected against irresponsible journalism, newspapers cannot be exempted from the legislation. In any case the Human Rights Bill. together with the Government's pro-

posed freedom of information legislation, will do more to protect press freedom than constrain it.

Yours faithfully, ANDREW PUDDEPHATT. Director, Charter88, Exmouth House, 3-11 Pine Street, ECIR OJH. December 17.

#### Soldiers and HIV Doorstep ban

Josephine Butler Society

education, men still hold women with whom they consort responsible for the transmission of sexual disease (reports, December 16, 17, 191? Do men really refuse to take responsibility for their actions, even today?

paigned against the Contagious Diseases Act in the 1800s, women were held as being the half of a couple which needed state regulation to ensure their cleanliness for men. Heaven help us all if commanding

their usage pdq.

The Josephine Butler Society. Neals Place Farm, Canterbury, Kent CT2 8HX. December 30.

From Mr Hans van den Heuvel

Sir, Proposals for recruiting 16-yearshould be lowered. I also wish to refute your reporter's

statement that the Dutch Armed Forces suffer from a "shoddy image". The Netherlands has had all-volunteer, professional Armed Forces since September 1996; defence personnel are expected to exhibit a sense of responsibility, discipline, tolerance, flexibility and respect: and a stringent policy with respect to misconduct and the use of drugs is enforced. Those who violate this policy are fired.

The Netherlands Armed Forces are professional, highly motivated, and well-suited to their tasks, as illustrated daily by the excellent co-operation between British and Dutch military personnel in Bosnia under Sfor.

Sincerely, HANS van den HEUVEL Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of The Netherlands. Postbus 20701. 2500 ES 's-Gravenhage, The Netherlands. December 12.

ness, hospital and prison. Will the Government ask the new

seems that only a multidisciplinary overloaded, will the Government

Yours faithfully.

Sir, The Crime and Disorder Bill will

Yours sincerely. Queen Anne's Gate, SWIH 9AT.

From the Director of Charter88

Sir. Terry Waite is right that press December 15; see also report, Decemin Strasbourg.

Article 10 states that we have "the right to hold opinions and to receive and impart information and ideas". This has been used by the press to protect its right to publish stories that the Government and others have tried to suppress, from the revelations about thalidomide in the 1970s to the Spycatcher memoirs of 1987.

### From the Chairwoman of the

Sir. How is it that after all the recent

When Josephine Butler cam-

officers still think this way. Perhaps the CO at Catterick who is so concerned about his soldiery should provide condoms and teach

Yours faithfully, VALERIE GORE, Chairwoman,

#### **Dutch Army proposals**

olds into the Dutch Army, referred to in your report of December 5, do not emanate from The Netherlands Ministry of Defence, and were clearly refuted by the minister in Parliament on December 11. The Government has also rejected the suggestion that qualifications for the last-reaction force

(Director of Public Information).

From Mr Lestocq Bowerman

Sir. Before the minister bans the doorstep (letters, December 12) he should pay a visit to 2 Willow Road in Hampstead, the house built by the architect Ernő Goldfinger in 1938-39 for his own use and now open to the public.

It appears to be more or less untouched since the family lived there, except that the floor covering on the ground floor has been renewed. The house has a level entrance and

no step. When I visited it recently it had a line of sandbags along the front to keep out the rainwater. Yours faithfully, C. BOWERMAN, 27 Thetford Road,

#### Rembrandt diagnosis

New Malden, Surrey KT3 5DP.

From Mr A. M. Phillips

December 20.

Sir. Carlos Espinel, "a professor of cardiology and an amateur art historian", sees in Rembrandt's selfportrait of 1659 a collection of symptoms of disease and degeneration that leads your headline writer to call it "Portrait of the artist as sick and sorry old man" (report, December 19).

In the season that is upon us it is not untimely to reflect that the spiritual whole is a blazing triumph over the sum of its physical parts.

Yours faithfully, A. M. PHILLIPS, Lycidas, Doggetts Wood Close, Chalfont St Giles HP8 4TL. December 19.

#### Good Evans

From the General Secretary of the South American Mission Society

Sir. I note with interest in today's Church News the appointment of the Right David Evans as honorary Assistant Bishop of Birmingham.

1 am grateful the right David Evans

got the job rather than the wrong David Evans or even the left David Evans. Yours, as the Right Reverend,

DAVID EVANS, General Secretary, South American Mission Society, Allen Gardiner House, 12 Fox Hill, Birmingham B29 4AG. December 22

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

#### Faith that crosses religious divides

From the Reverend Johanna Boeke

Sir. As a Unitarian minister, I recently performed a marriage ceremony for a Dutchman (I am Dutch by birth) and an Israeli woman, and attended the reception in Tel Aviv. I was delighted to see the warmth and acceptance the bride's parents showed towards their

daughter's husband. At the reception most of the people I met were Jewish. But the Jewish identity of some of them is in question as the result of a struggle between Ortho-dox rabbis and Reform and Conservative rabbis.

It saddened me, during my brief visit, to encounter yet another religious chasm. It saddens me even more the Archbishop of Canterbury insisting that Prince Charles, when crowned King, will have to promise to be "Defender of the Faith", rather than "Defender of Faith" (report, November 20). Dr Carey's argument is that the UK is a Christian nation, not a multifaith nation. As such, "the Faith" presumably means Church of

Last year I attended a lecture given by the Archbishop at Lambeth Palace to the World Congress of Faiths. In it he asked: "How can we travel together in interfaith dialogue?" His answer was that "We can journey together as friends, but our stories are not the

same." I agree.
But now I am disappointed. It may be true that only 10 per cent of the British people are of other faiths, but shouldn't their right to those faiths be defended? Shouldn't a king defend the diverse faiths of the Commonwealth nations?

Many couples come to be married in a Unitarian Church who, when asked "What is your religion?" answer, "Oh. I suppose, Church of England." But when I ask "Do you attend a church?" they say, "Not really, we

are not really practising."

Are these the people whose faith Prince Charles is to defend? Yes, they seek some sense of the sacred. They seek to share the bonds of faithfulness. but in a universal way. The Prince would prefer to be "Defender of Faith". Perhaps that is not enough. Perhaps the new title should be, "Defender of the Practice of Faithfulness".

Yours faithfully.
JOHANNA BOEKE, Forest House. Winterpit Lane, Mannings Heath, Horsham, Sussex RHI3 oLZ. r.boeke@virgin.net December 22.

#### Museum charges

From Sir Hugh Leggatt

Sir. Would it not be a noble gesture if all our public museums and galleries allowed free admittance during the Christmas and new year holidays for children and adults alike?

HUGH LEGGATT. Flat i, 10 Bury Street, St James's, SWIY 6AA. December 18.

Stocking fillers From Mrs Sue Catt

Sir, Mr Alasdair Maclean fletter. December 20) asks why the mouse in the Christmas stocking? - perhaps the answer lies in

Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse:

As the mouse was made of hard

sugar and took longer to consume, it

was just buying a few more minutes of precious peace in the morning. Yours faithfully. SUE CATT. St Nicholas Lodge, Back Lane.

Blakeney, Norfolk NR25 7NP. December 20.

From Mrs Ann Hughes Sir, I suggest that, in the days when there were holes in the wainscot, the original mouse put himself in the Christmas stocking, attracted by the nuts, fruit, food and chocolate (much better than cheese for baiting a

mousetrap). Yours faithfully. ANN HUGHÉS, Twin Oaks, Oak Farm Lane. Fairseat, Sevenoaks. Kent TNI5 7JU. johnthughes@compuserve.com December 20.

From Dr Tom Tate

Sir, The presence of mice is inevitable. Last year, they polished off Santa's mince pie and carrot, had a go at his whisky, and I have no doubt, investigated the stockings. Not a creature was stirring - excepting the mice.

Yours faithfully, TOM TATE. Snowfield Cottage, Bearsted Green, Kent ME14 4DL t.tate@ic.ac.uk

December 20. From Mr Richard Carlyon

Sir. The presence of the mouse is easily explained: it is to assist in the production of personalised, word-processed, thank-you letters.

Yours faithfully, R. J. CARLYON, Hogarth Conage, North Street Somerton, Somerset TAIL 7NY. December 22.



## COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM NORFOLK

December 23: Mrs Robert de Pass has succeeded the Lady Elton as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.
CLARENCE HOUSE

December 23: The Lady Angela Oswaid has succeeded Dame Frances Campbell-Preston as Lady in Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mather.

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester celebrates her 96th birthday on Christmas Day. her 61st birthday on Christmas Day.

#### Birthdays

Christmas Eve

Mr J.K. Ashcroft, former chairman, Coloroll Group, 49; Mr A.T. Baillie, diplomat, 65; Mrs Mair Barnes, former managing director, Wool-worths, 53; Professor Anthony Clare, psychiatrist, 55: Lord Cowdrey of Tonbridge, 65; Sir Gerald Elliot, former chairman, Christian Salvesen, 74; Sir James Hodge, diplomat,

Dame Joan Kelleher, former director, WRAC, 82: Sir Ivan Lawrence, QC, and for-mer MP, 61; Miss Suzy Menkes, fashion journalist, 54; Miss Thea Porter, fashion designer, 70: Mr John Taylor, MP, 60; Miss Carol Vorderman, broadcaster, 37; Mr Philip Ziegler, author,

Christmas Day

Lord Annan, 81; Mr Jim Bolger, racehorse trainer, 56; Miss S.J. Browne, former Principal, Newnham College, Cambridge, 73; Sir Kenneth Calman, Chief Medical Officer, HM Government, 56; Mr F.N. David, former commandant, Fire Service College, Moreton-in-Marsh, 54; Professor Christopher Frayling, Rector, Royal College of

Lord Grade, 91; the Right Rev Noël Jones, Bishop of Sodor and Man. 65; Sir Nick Larmour, former diplomat, 81; Miss Annie Lennox, singer, 43: Professor Philip Love, Vice-Chancellor, Liverpool University, 58; Sir Peter Matthews, former Chief Constable, Surrey, 80; Mr Ismail Merchant, film producer, 61; Pro-fessor Phyllida Parsloe, former Warden, Wills Hall. Bristol, 67; Lord Sheppard of Didgemere, 65; Mr Nigel Starmer-Smith, sports commentator, 53: Sir Noel Stockdale, life president, Asda Group, 77; the Right Rev B.N.Y. Vaughan, former Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, 80; Sir Christopher Wates, chief Wates Building

#### Dinner

The Maccabacans Rabbi Julia Neuberger was the guest speaker at the annu-al Chanukah dinner of the Maccabaeans, held last night at the Basil Street Hotel. Sir John Balcombe, President, was in the chair and Mr Justice Godfrey and Judge Barrington Black also spoke.

#### **Forthcoming** marriages

Mr S.G. Carr and Min V.J. Hancock

The engagement is announced between Stephen, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Douglas Carr, of Bishops Cleeve, Cheltenham, and Victoria, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Grenville Hancock, of Great Hyde Hall, Sawbridgeworth. Mr J.S. Feston-View and Miss S. Ned

The engagement is announced between Jonathan Stephen, younger son of Mr and Mrs Edmund Vince, of Easons Green. Sussex, and Sibylle, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Winfried Neef, of Paidenburg Comments. Reichenbach, Gegmany,

Mr J.J. Good and Min R.K. Green The engagement is announced between James, youngest son of Mr and Mrs R. Sinclair-Taylor, of Peaslake, Surrey, and Rachel, youngest daughter of Mrs R. Green, of Wilstone, Herdordshire and the late Mr John Green.

Mr T. Harrison-Banfield
and Miss C.L. Young
The engagement is announced
between Toby, elder son of Bunny and Fanny Harrison-Banfield, of Abingdon, Oxon, and Caireen, daughter of Graham and Vicki Young, of Little Aston, Stafford-

Mr M.J. Mulbolland and Miss E.K. Richards The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Mulholland, of Avon Castle, Ringwood, Hampshire, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Richards, of Weiler-La-Tour Liverphotest.

Mr S.R. Northridge and Min L.D. Harrel The engagement is amounced between Simon, only son of Mr and Mrs J.F. Northridge, of Hurst Green, Sussex, and Linda, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs K.F. Hurrell, of New Milton,

#### Marriage

Mr C.J. Marbew and Min E. Van Der Lies-Awick The marriage took place on Sat-urday, December 20, 1997, at St Mary's Church, Bosworth Hall, Husband's Bosworth, Leicester-thire, of Mr Charles James Mathew, of Stratford House, Marston Trussell, Market Harborough, son of the late Francis Mathew and of of the late Francis Matthew and of Mr. Mathew, to Miss Element Ven Der Liet-Awick, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Van Der Liet-Awick, of the Old House, Little Bowden, Market Harborough. The bride who was given in marriage by her father, was altended by Miss Ruby and Miss Christabell Read, Miss Chrisabell Read, Miss Christabell Read, Miss Christabell Read, Miss Ch Van Hasselt and Miss Tatiana Williams Mr Robert Madass was best man.

Downside, officiated. The Rev Roland Creighton Jobe was robed The honeymoon is being spent

#### Latest wills

Douglas Victor Maurice Massey. He left 65,000 to Winsley House Harpice: £1,000 to the Holy Trinity Church at Binegar, Squeetse. Donald Botham Moss, retired company director, of Butley Town, Presibury, Macclesfield, left estate valued at £1,242,545 net.

valued at E1,242,545 net.
He left t2,000 to the Spassics Society.
E50,000 and his paddock in Well
Lane, and Gunto Lane, Butley Town,
to Mits Caroline Williams, in
appreciation of her bein and
kindness, also his blue roan cocker
spaniel and tortobe Big Tibby with
the confidence that she will look
after them during their lives;
E50,000 and his shotgun to his
friend and neighbour David
Williams as a token of appreciation
of his assistance over the years.

Ivan Weston, of London NW7, Jeft estate valued at £427,162 net. Anna Patricia Linington, of Southsea, Hampshire, left estate valued at £578,617 net.

She left shares to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, the Linde Sisters of The Poor, St Joseph's Hospice and Overseas Service Pensioners Benevolent Society. Kathleen Mary Brandon Glad-stone, of Cheltenham, Gloucester-shire, left estate valued at £687,910



seen for the first time in Britain when it goes on show in the exhibition Recognising Van Eyek at the National Gallery from January 14 to March 15, 1998. The painting, which has recently been cleaned, is considered to be one of the most outstanding religious works by the 15th-century Flemish artist. It will be on show outside America for the first time since the 1920s when it was sold by the Hermitage in St Petersburg to the National Gallery of Art, Washington. The exhibition will include the

Eyel's works, among them Man in a Red Turban and The Arnolfini Portrait, as well as two versions of St Francis Receiving the Stigmata on loan from Philadelphia and Turin. Although both have long been attributed to Van Eyck, these virtually identical paintings have recently been subject to investigation over questions of authorship. The London exhibition offers the chance to view them alongside other signed works by the

### Services for Christmas Day and Boxing Day

RANGOR CATHEDRAL-8 SIC 9.45 Symun Bendigaid; 11 Ch Euch, lackson in G, A habe is born Mathlad, 66, 10.30 Cymun landigaid. Mathles, top sendigald: Belfast Cathedral: 11 Christmas Euch, lacked in G. Christmas Euch, lacked in G. Chdismas Eoch, Jackson In G.

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP.

9,15 HC; 11 Ch Buch, Hodie Christius

natus est Plainsong, Kelly in C, The
holly and the try (Walford Davies),
Gloria in excess (Weelkes), Rev M

Samer, (26) 9 MP. 9,15 HC; 4 EP. Gotha in excelsis (weelless), Roy M. Samer. (26) 9 MP, 9.15 HC; 4 EP. H. ACLEUTEN CATHEDRAL: \$ BCC. 9.15 Ch M.A. How genile the donkey flagrand). Canop. Hindley: 10.30 Buch. The St Nicholas Mass (Haydin, A. Mary's Magnificat (Carber), the Rishop of Blackburn. Hencon. Catherdhall: 7 Euch. \$ 5 Euch. Mass to 3. voices (Byrd), the Rishop of Swanses and Brecon: 11 Euch. Missa Brevis in B las (Mozart; 5.45 E. A. Cul. creavit coclumn Oleciewal curol.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL: \$ M; 10 Pestal Each. Missa Brevis in C (Mozart; 3.30 EP. (24) 8.40 M; 12.30 HC; S.15 EP.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 BC; 10 M. Rainer in C.; A babe is born (Pricher; 11 S Encir. Missa Sanct Ricola) (Haydin, Hodie Carbon, Hodie Carbon, Hodie Carbon, Hodie Carbon, Hodie Carbon, Massa Brevis in O (Mozart), Messiant: Dieu parmi nous, the Bishop. Messiner: Dieu parmi nous, the Birbop.

CHILDER DE CATELDRAL I HC.

6.30 Ench. Rite A. 11 CATSUMAS INSTITUTE. A. 12 CATSUMAS INSTITUTE. A. 12 CATSUMAS INSTITUTE. A. 13 CATSUMAS INSTITUTE. A. 14 CATSUMAS INSTITUTE. A. 15 DIC. 5.15 EP. (26)

8.15 HC. 8.45 MP. 5.15 EP. (27)

EMERICAL CATSUMAS I HC. 10

EMERICAL CATSUMAS I HC. 10

EMERICAL CATSUMAS I HC. 10

EMERICAL CATSUMAS I HC. 15

EMERICAL CATSUMAS I HC CORRECATHEDRAL: @ Ends: | 1.15 5 Even. Mathles in C. Fuch. Mathles in C.
COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP:
8 C. 10.30 Buch. Nackson in G. A.
Hodde Christus natus est. Verbum:
eart Cheppard: 3.30 EP. CAP V MP.
421; 12.10 C; 12.40 Midday Prayer, 5 12 i 12 10 C 12 40 Mindry Prayer, 5 E.
DURINY CATERDRAI: 8 EC 10 45 2 Euch, Stanford in C, Hodie Christus oness est (Poulend.)
DURINAM CATHED PAU: 7.15, 8 EC. 10 M. Te Deum in G (Yaughan Williams); hesponses base, Britten in C A: Hoole Christman anthe est. (Poulenc); 11.15 HC, Christmas Acclemations (Eden), Messe Soleniel (Langlain; 3.30 E, Wood in F, A: Sir Christmas (Manhiad).
BLY CATHEDRAI: 8 HC, 10.30 S Euch, Monart in B fact 3.45 E with Carols, Murrilli in E, Rantsia on Christmas Carols (Vaughan Williams). Caf 7.40 M & C E EC 3.45 EF. BURTLER CATHEDRAI: 7. 8 HC, 2.45 EF. 11.15 M. Vaughan Williams in G; 4
E Wood in E flat.

GUOLESTRE CATHEDRAL: 10.15 F
Mr. 10.45 Euch. the Bishop of Tewicesbury. (2.6) 3 Carols for All.

GUILDFOILD CATHEDRAL: H.C. (Mozart): 11.30 M. Britten in E. A malden most gentle Carnet: 4

Perthyl of Nine Lemons & Carols.

HEALFORD CATHEDRAL: H.C. (Moyal), There is no rose Grodoom; 1.30 M. Sanders in B flat, the Bishop of Heretont: 3.30 E. Noble in B minor.

(2.6) 9.30 M & L. 10 HC. 4.30 E.

IFICATIEL CATHEDRAL: H.C. (10.30 C. M., Ding Dong marrity (Wood), Sritton in C, & On this day certis shall ring Stewart; 12 H.C. 4

EP. (2.6) 7.40 MP. 8 HC. 4 EP. (1.6) 4. ar. Ley 1.40 MP, 8 HC, 4 RP, 1CHTELD CATELLER II. 5 PIC-10:20 S Ench. Missa Sared Missial Raydn), Hodie Christor mens ex Swedinate, to the beak midwinter Darker 5.30 RP, 049 9.30 HC, 3.30 art) Service: DIN CATHEDRAL & HC 9.30 \$ Lincoln: 11.15 M. Ding Dong. ST MACHAES CATHEDRAL Old mercily on high (Wood). Stanford in Aberdeen: 11 Family Service & HC, A:

C. In the bleak midwiner (Darke);
12.30 HC 3.45 E. Responses;
25.64 Responses;
25.64 Responses;
25.65 Respon NEWCASTLE CATAEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 S Euch, Ding dong merily on high (wood, A babe is born (Manilas), bishop & Gill. Wood, A babe is born (assimiss). Bishop & Gill.

NEWPORT CATHEDRAI: 10.30 \$
Buch, \$1 Woode Service Enterphand, 
NORWICH CATHEDRAI: 10.30 Buch, Missa Brevis in D (Mousire, 
Tomorrow shall be my dancing they 
(Gardner). A majden most genule 
(Carrer): 3 to Pesni E Stanford in A 
Today the Virgin (Invent). 

\*\*TTTRADEGUIGH CATHEDRAI: 1.30 & Shallor in C, Hodie 
Chrisms name est (Sweelinch: 3.30 B 
2 Tronsision, The Gloncest Service 
(Bowells). In the blask midwinter 
(Darke). (26) 4 E. 

\*\*PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAI: 8 HC. 
9.30 C with Carolist 11.35 Euch with 
CEPDIA COFORNICH MESS PROPERTY. EP.

RIPON CATHEDRAL: Each; 5.10
Ch Euch; 11.30 M; 12.30 Euch; 5.30 E
with Carols. (26) 9.30 Euch; 10.30
Pilorimage to Fountains Abbey led
by the Bishop of Ripon.

BOCHISTE CATHEDRAL: HC.
10.30 S Euch. Mass of the crib
Malcolmi, In the bleak midwinter
Dartes; 5.30 E. (26) 9.10 M; 9.30 HC;
5.30 E. Dartes; 5.30 E. (26) 9.10 M; 9.30 HC; 5.30 E.

EAUTHMENT CATHED TAIL: # HC: 10 S EUCh: 11.45 Family Service; 3 Ch E.

SHIETHELD CATHED FAI: # MC; 10.30 S. Ruch. the Bishop of Doncaster; 12 EP. (26) 10 MP; 10.30 Euch; 3 EP.

SOUTHWARK CATHED FAI: 9 Euch; 11 Ch Euch; 5 Part Mass [By70]; 3 Ch E. Shanford in G. Thy Word is a lamtern (Purcell), Canon Passor.

EOUTHWELL MINSTER: \$ 50 HC: 11 M, Britten in C. A. Hodie Chieston Fastor.

EOUTHWELL MINSTER: \$ 50 HC: 11 M, Britten in C. A. Hodie Chieston Fastor.

EOUTHWELL MINSTER: \$ 50 HC: 11 M, Britten in C. A. Hodie Chieston Fastor.

EQ (26) 7.50 HC; 8 MP; 9.45 HC; 5.45 E.

E (26) 7.50 HC; 8 MP; 9.45 HC; 5.45 E. E. TRURG CATHEDBAL: 8 HC. 9 M: 10 Sol Such, Schubert in G, A: I SEN-three ships (Marshall), Away in a manger (Willcocks): 5 EP. (26) 10.30 M: 11 HC. 5.30 EP. manger (Willocki): 5 EP. (26) 10.30
M: 11 HC; 5.30 EP.
WARTIFIED CATHEDRAL: 4 HC;
9.15 C, Canon R Capper 11 501
Euch, Coronation Mass (Mozard,
WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S
Euch, Coronation Mass (Mozard,
EV) L Thompson; 11.30 M,
Stanford In B Har, 1 E.
WESTMENSTER ARREST: 8 HC; 10
Euch, Stanford In E Har, 1 E.
WESTMENSTER ARREST: 8 HC; 10
Euch, Stanford In E Har, 1 E.
WESTMENSTER ARREST: 8 HC; 10
Euch, Stanford In E Har, 1 E.
WILLIAMS (26) 8 HC; 9.20 M; 12.30
HC; 4 E. Sumsion In G, Ceremony of
Carols (Editard), Company of
Carols (Editard), O magnum
mysterium (Victoria); 3.30 So;
Mass, 10.30 Soi Mass, Missa Berres
MC (Mozard), O magnum
mysterium (Victoria); 3.30 So;
Mass, 10.30 Soi Mass, Missa Berres
MC (Mozard), O magnum
mysterium (Victoria); 3.30 So;
Mc (Mozard), O mass (Mozard);
Millams, (4 G 12 HC; 5.30 E.
VORK MINTERE (A 270); (Vaughan
Williams), (4 G 12 HC; 5.30 E.
VORK MINTERE (A 270); (Vaughan
Williams), (4 G 12 HC; 5.30 E.
VORK MINTERE (A 270); (Vaughan
Williams), (4 G 12 HC; 5.30 E.
VORK MINTERE (A 270); (Vaughan
Williams), (4 G 12 HC; 5.30 E.
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VORK MINTERE (A 270); (Vaughan
Williams), (4 G 12 HC; 5.30 E.
VORK MINTERE (A 270); (Vaughan
Williams), (4 G 12 HC; 5.30 E.
VORK MINTERE (A 270); (Vaughan
Williams), (4 G 1 H DAYIDS CATHEDROL Jembs 8 HC: 930 Cymun Bendigaid: -11.15 Ch M. Stanford in C. On this day (Stewart). (26) 7.30 MP; 8 HC: 4.15 EP COMMINIORATE CATHEDRAL S HC: 10 S. Euch, Rev R. Lewis, Schebert in B 201, Glory to God (Handel); 50 E. ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL SOUTHWAYE & Moss with Carols; 10

This day Christ was born (Byrd). I saw three ships (Preston), Rev Reversel, Street Str HM, Missa Brevis in D (Mozart), Rev i Davies.
All Souls, W1: 9 HC; 10.30 Family Service, John Cook.
CROWN COURT CHURCH OF BCOTLAND, WC2: 11.15 MS, Rev S HOOG; 6.30 EP.
FARM STREET, W1: 8, 9.30 LM; 11 SO! Mass; 12.30 JM; 6 Mass.
HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, SW7: 11 Ramily Service; 12.30 HC.
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, SW1: 8.45 Euch: 11 S Euch with Carols. Darke in F. Rev M Marshall.
THE ORATORY, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 SO! Mass, Missa Angelus ac postores (Praetorius): 12.30 Mass.
ARMENIAN AFOSTOLIC CHURCH WE: 11 Holy Mass, Archbishop Y Giziran.
WESLEYS CHAPEL, EC2: 10.30 MS, WE: 11 Holy Mass, Archbishop Y Gizirian.
WESLEYS CHAPEL ECZ: 10.30 MS, Rev De L COMMEN.
WESTMINSTER. CENTRAL HALL (Methodist) 10.30 Christmas Celebration, Rev E Fletcher.
ST ANNE AND ST AGNESS ILLINEARING, Gresham St, ECZ: 11 Chind, Ew Dr J Schneider.
ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, ECI: 9 HC; 11 Family Buch, Missa Brevis in D (Mozar), The Rector.
ST BERDES, ECX: 11 Family Buch, ST CLEMENT DANES, WCZ: 11 Ch. Buch, Coronadion Mass (Mozart, Gloria (Weelles), Rev D Mackenzie.
ST CLUMBAS CHURCH OF SCOTIAND, SWI: 10 HC; 11 Family Burties. SCOTIAND, SWI: 10 HC; 11 SAMLY SERVICE

ST EXTHELDREDA'S, ECI: 10 Mass;
11 Mass with Carobs.
SY GEORGE'S, WI: 8-30 HC; 11 S
EUCH, Missa Brevis in F (Flaydin).
ST JAMES'S, GATICKHYTHE, EC4:
10-30 S M, John Paul.
ST JAMES'S, WI: 8-30 HC; 11 S EUCH.
REV D'REVEX.
ST JAMES'S, WI: 10-30 S EUCH.
SCHILDERT IN G.
ST JOHN'S, E15: 11 RC, REV M
OREIO.
ST JUNES'S, SW3: 8 HC: 10-30 Family ST LINE'S, 5W3: 5 HC: 10.30 Pamily Such, Rey C Keyll-Davies, Buth Rev C Kevill-Davies,

57 MARYS, NW: 8 Hc; 10:30 Euch,
Missa Sancti Nicolai (Flaydo), Rev T
Devotable Jones.

57 MARGARRIS, SW: 11 M,
Stanford in B flat, For unto us a child
ts born (Handel), Rev Dr P Bradshaw;
12.15 HC 1030 Euch; 5 EP, Rey D Monteith, 5T MARY ARBOTT CHURCH, W8: 8 HC; 930 Euch; 11.15 Cb M; 12.30 HC; 4 2 (26) 11.30 Euch. 5T MARY-THE-VIRGIN, NW3: 8 Euch; 10.30 Ch Euch; 4 E, 5T MARYLEBONE, NW1: 8 HC; 10 Ch Euch, Mass in C (Schubert), The ROOM. Ch Euch, Mass in C (Schubert), The Recor.

ST PAULE, SW1: 9 HC, 11 Ch Euch, Missa Jugundiness (Haydra), Hodie Christos natus est (Poulend, ST PAULE), SW1: 8 15 HC, 10 Euch: 11 5 Euch, Fr De Tüllyer.

CHAPEL EDVAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM TOWER Of LONDON: 11.30 Midnight HC, Rev P R C Abrito.

CHAPEL EDVAL I James; Palsos: 8.30 HC, 11.15 5 Euch, Hodie Christus natus est (Sweeting), Rev W J Booth.

GROSVENGE CHAPEL, South J Booth.

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South
Andley St. W!: 11 MS. Geiober seist
du. Jesus Chrin (Bach), Darke in F.
QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY,
WIZ: 11 S Euch, Darke in F. GRAFS INN CHAPEL WC1: 830681 Master.
GUARDS CHAPTL. Wellington
Barnets, SWift PR. The Shepherd's
Carol (Billings), A Forume us a child
is bore tilantels, Band of the
Coldstram Guards, 12 HC. ROTAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPTEL

#### **Anniversaries**

BIRTH'S: King John, reigned 1799-1216, Oxford, 1167; St Ignatios of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, Loyola, Province of Guiptz-Jesus, Loyota, Province of Guipticoa, 1491; George Crabbe, poet.
Aldeburgh, Suffolk, 1754; James
Joule, physicist, Salford, Lancashire, 1818; Matthew Arnold,
poet and critic, Laleham, Middlesec, 1822. George I, King of Greece 1863-1913. Copenhagen, 1845; Howard Hughes, manufacturer, aviator and film producer, Hous-MAL TOUS

DEATHS: Vasoo da Gama, navi-gator, Cochin, India, 1524; Wil-liam Makepeace Thackeray, novelist, London, 1863; Léon Bakst, stage designer, Paris, 1924; Alban Berg, composer, Vienna, 1935. Verdi's opera Aida was performed

for the first time in Cairo, 1871. The London Coliseum opened, Libya became independent and King Idris I acceded to the throne, 1951. .Soviet troops invaded Afghanistan as the Kabul Government fell, 1979.

Christmas Day BIKTHS: Orlando Gibbons, musician, Cambridge, 1583; Sir Isaac Newton, physicist, Woolsthorpe, Lincolnshire, 1642; Dorothy Wordsworth, writer, Cocker-mouth, Cumberland, 1771; Alexander Scriabin, composer, Moscow, 1872: Mohammed Ali Jinnah, Ist Governor-General of Pakistan 1947-48, Karachi, 1876; Maurice Utrillo, painter, Paris, 1883; Con-rad Hilton, hotel magnate, San Antonio, New Mexico, 1887; Humphrey Bogart, actor, New York City, 1899; Mohamed Anwar Sadat, President of Egypt 1970-81, Tala, 1918.

Tala, 1918.

DEATHS: W.C. Fields, actor, Pasadena, 1946; Charles Pathé, film groducer, 1957; Sir Charles (Charles) Chaplin, silent film star, Switzerland, 1977; Joan Miró, abstract painter, Majorca, 1983.

The first esteddied took place, Cartiforn Castle, 1776. Cardigan Castle, 1176. The first Christmas tree in Britain was erected at Queen's Lodge, Windsor, by the German-born Queen Charlotte, wife of King George III, 1800. King George V made the first royal Christmas broadcast, 1932

Nicolae Ceausescu, Romanian dic-

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE TIMES

THE SUNDAY TIMES

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### PERSONAL COLUMN

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tator, was executed, 1989.

Brace the same that are limp, steady the knees that give way, say to the saxious, "Be strong, fear not. Your God. Comes to saive you." Leaksh 35: 3,4. BIRTHS SELTRAD - On 14th December to Jacqueline and Eduardo, a beautiful drophter, Amelie Easte Leavy Beltrao, born 9.01 am at the Chelson and Westminster Hospital. DELAFORCE - On 20th December 1997 in Tokyo, to DROMEOOLE-CAVAZZI - Ca DROMGOOLS-GAVAZZI - On Rovember 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Catherine and Gery, stanger, Seiyan Columbe, stister for Bryam and Gyres. Fries - Gary and Gabrielle would like to amounce the birth of their daughter Gener Juliet born on 10th December 1997 at Sollienii Matemity Hospital, a little sigue for Louis. HAYCOCK - On December 20th, to Gavin and Caroline (Ewing-Gay), a daughter, Eth Rosemary, a sister for Margal - On 11th December 1997 in Derby, to Jason Jagosp and Peragit, a see, Arun Amardeep Singh. A Readden for Dr. Garbacken Singh and Surjit Kaur. RELLY - On 12th Decamber, to Rebecca (não Attree) and Paddy, a daughter, Anna Clivia, a sister for Leo. Lift@H - On 23rd December 1997 in Hong Kong, to Vivian and John, a first son, William Henry Kenneth. BWRLOT - On December 16th at The Portland Hospital, to Alison (não Warder) and Bertrand, a son, Matthew, a brother for Nicholas.

PRESSOR - On 7th Decembe 1997 at the Chalses am Westminster Hospital, it Sally (nos him) and Fam, a daughter, Charlotte Elimbeth.

MOLLIANCE - On Sundry 23rd November 1997, to Cheryl Ann (née Hiller) and John Dilwyn, a dear son, Iolo Thilests.

Walliams - On July 21st at The Portland Hospital, to Marin and Jerry, a son, Jerry Alexander George, Christened on August 10th.

DEATHS

ARRESTRONS - Sir Andrew Bert CMG. Peacefully at Thursefish Court N/H on 21st December aged 90. Reloved husband of the bite Reloved heathend of the hate Lady Laurel, father of Christopher and grandfather of Charles, james, Victoria and Sam Memorial Service at 12 moon on Priday 9th jamesty 1998 at 8 Peters Et-Church, St Peters Street, Mindley, Panilly flowers only please. Prefured Constions to Save the Children. Enquiries to Tounish & Son.

DEATHS BALL - Christine on 20th December peacevally at home with her family to outside aged 57. Femana at the Oxford Grematorium 1130 am on Treatry 30th December. Friends and family welcome. Family Illowers only please. Domations if damined to Save the Californ Fund. Imaginiae (01865) 310800.

BEALE - Einine Relson peacefully at the flouraemouth Nutfield Hospital on December 20th. Wife of the Into Roman L. Seale and much loved mother of Vancou and Nigel and grandmother of Alexander and Timothy. Function on Wednatchy December Sist at 12-30 un. December Sist at 12.50 pm. No flowers by her request, but downtions if deshed, to King George's Fund for Sellom c'o Woods Fundal Directors, 11s Ioan Way, Dorchester DT1 1EW. Tel: 01305 262666.

BLYTH - On 23rd December 1997 at Bulavington Manor. Betty Clarkson, aged 90. Widow of Bill and much loved mother, grandmother and grean-grandmother. Funeral Private. Thunkughring Service Intu. No flowers please, but donations to West Sumes: Association for the Mind, 35 Bouth Street, Chichester, West Sumess, POTP 182.

BROWN - Gillian Many (note Edmonds) on 19th December peacefully after a county-over right against cancer. Heleved and levelse wife of Peter and devoted mother of Care, Caroline and Helen and grandmother of Manthew, Jen., Andrew and Manaile. Private creastion followed by Memorial Rapalle, Private cremation followed by Memoria; Service at 5t Margaret's Crunch, Chipsteed on 2nd January at 5 yes. Family flowers only. Donations in Res if chefred to Imperial Canow Research Fund, 61 Lincolns Ins Piekis, London WCZA STZ.

EMEWER - Caseline Many of Blackthern, Oxfordshire, pancefully in hospital on 20th December Beloved wife of Reville (Mile) and meth loved mother of Sarah, Michael and Rebects. Penseal Service at Oxford Creinstorium on Monday. 29th December at 130 pm. Family flowers only. Denstions if desired to Micester Community Hospital. Bicester Resultal

18/9/1908. Much loved sister of Eath and and of Grace. Died peacefully on Saturday December 20th 1997. A Memorial Service will be held in the New Year at her Farish Church in Eachentha. Date and these lands and the Saturday. at her Farish Church in Bathgrokh. Dets and thes to be notified. The fundly funeral will be held at Frenchay Farish Church, Bristol on Tuesday December 30th at 11 m., Enquiries to T.E. & H., Fandock, The Poplars, Bristol Eodd, Hambrook, Existol E316 1kD, tul-(01179) 566774.

COMSTANCE - Margaret June dad peacefully on December 21st, beloved wife of the later of Brance, much hoved smoker of Sunau, Ethnhoth and June, grandmother of Annie, fayert, Boste, Surah and Candilla. Crussition Enalty only. These will be a Service of Thankapting for her life at All Saints Church, Longhops, Gion on Treesky jinterry 19th at 12 mon. Family 21swers only. Doustions if wished to the Countries of the Country Service Countries in the Service of The Service Service of The S

de COUNCY THOMPSON.

Pencerully on December 22nd at Ininky Heepine, Ciapham 5W6, Bobby, devoted hushand of Isia, father of Suma, Investy and Michael and loving grandfather of Alto, Causiotts, Louise and Sum. Funeral at Fathery Vales Committees on December 29th at 12.45 pm. He flevent, Denations if deshed to Trinity Hospics, 30 Ciapham Common Borth Side, London 5W4.

deresses - Manganet Domehau, on 21st Documber, suddenly and penerally at home; do denty lovel wife of David, and mother of John and Sarah, and a very provid-guadmother. Service at R. Sicholas' Church, Anh. Canterbury, on Wednasday, 31st Documber at 1135. He flowers, phones.

DREW - Preferent George Charles of Berkhausted, Herts, died pencefully in hospful after a short Hesser on 19th December. He was be greatly mired by his daughter Elizabeth, sen Micholas, and. Mic grandchildren. Cremtion on Jist December 11.30 am at Amerikam Cremter 12.30 am at Amerikam at Cre

Direct Scott Direct December Elect, in Chebienhum Genemi, Hospital, Harold Roxbee Cox, Barva Kings, Fanton, aged 95 years, after a short ilinean. Salveva heathand of Jonn, father of Christopher and Jewary, prodictions and letricit, genet-generalisther of Hannah and Ruth, und stepfather of Kanneth, Christine and Richard. Funeral Service on December 31st at 12 mon at 38 James the Great, Chipping Campdon, Fundiy Howas, galy plantes. Hemograil Services details to be announced latter. All evryics details to h
announced later. Al
emputies to Polity Remits
Ltd., Funeral Directors,
01386-765133.
MotROWN - Dennis William
passed away percefully
ofter a tong fight syminet
cames. He leaves his wife
hy and two sum Michael
and Potes. GOLDSHO - The on December 21st 1997 died sudly and sentiamly jest short of his 69th inthinky. Head loved hus band, father and gendichtes, will be greatly missed by all who knew him. A functal service will be hold at 9t Mary's Church, Best Levent, Chichester at 11sm on humany 2nd 1996. All friends welcome. Denations if desired to Ednor's Trust, Enquiries as welcome (U1263) 762136.

MGAB - Louise on 19th December and 86. Hime days after her belayed husband Frank. Adored mother of Hartin and Sugan and Much Loved grandmother. Family cressition. Enquiries to Beddick it Dysoud Funcai Discreas tale. 6019713 Directors, tel: (01271) miving - Elimbeth (Berry), former Serier Psychiatric Secial Worker at the Thristock Clinic and Bunder in Social Work at the University of Tork, tied pencetally in Highwate effect a short Illness on 21st December aged 91. Much level matter of Ben, Josly, Alexin and Louise Funeral at Colden Green Cremstocken on 27th December at 11 an. Friends velocone. Describes Midward to Onfete.

SHWELL - Closky (noe Butterfield) passed away at house in Mooreka Brisbane on 3rd December 1997, leaves sixter Ivy. Commution Rickley 19th December 1997. Commun. 01922 270122.

NYAH - Rozalind suddenly some two weeks after returning from Rawsin, at her senside home in weymouth on Decoupler 20th. So gantie, sweet and hind throughout her life, she radiated warmth and touched the hirst of hump. Memorial Service (Nos and Jan) Letcombe Beaustt intuity 10th January 2 year.

CECL R. SOM, due to a money becomesser, will not be send-ing Christmess cards but he send-ing Christmess cards but he send-his fandly wish all their becomes and polarizons a dood Christmess is a happy New Year. Christian to repember - more Christmas to rememb med Forever, Minon. Milds. DESAM wishes all her triends a vary Messy Christmee 256 a vary happy New That. BIRTHDAYS

IN MEMORIAM -

deliberation of Percy Cyril Claude Gunham 1901 to Christmas Day 1994. Prom his bon I.C.G.

PARECIAN - In loving memory of Manoug Parikina, who died on Christmes Bre, 1967.

XMAS GREETINGS

THION - Clifford Grant FR.C.S. M.D. M.S. Ph.D. on December 18th in Entrol other a long linnes. Beloved hushand of Phoebs, father of Robert and Elizabeth, and grandistine. Puneral private. HEALTH & BEAUTY WARREN Eathless
peacafully at home on
December 19th aged 98.
Dearly loved mother of
Patrick. and guardmother of
Patrick.

FOR SALE

SARGENT CANCER CARE FOR CHILDREN THE YOUNG PEOPLE TO WHOM WE GIVE PRACTICAL HELP HAVE THE MALE TO LIVE AND MANY OF THEM. DO, BY PEMEMBERING THE FUND. IN YOUR WILL STING US. FLATSHARE IN YOUR WILL, YOU WILL BRING US CLOSER TO SUPPORTING EVERY CHILD, WITH CANCER, FOR PURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE COMPACT US ON 0171 805 5111 14 ABBIGDON ROAD, LONDON WE GAF ANNOUNCEMENTS EBBS (EPED)

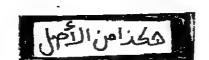
THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

Deadlines and Opening Times Birth, Marriage & Death Notices For notices to appear on Friday December 26th and Samuelay seather 27th, the dendline is Wednesday December 24th at 12 ne Thousday December 25th - Office Closed, Friday December 25th - Office Closed, The office will be open on to 11.30am.

Saturday, December 27th from 930 am to 11.30am.

Bound bours on Manday December 30th.

Tel: 0171 688 6880



#### OBITUARIES

### WITOLD RODZINSKI

Witold Rodzinski. historian and diplomat illed in Warsaw pe December 19 aged 79. He was born in Poland on October 8, 1918.

n 1960, when Dr Witold Rodzinski presented his credentials as the new Polish Ambassador in London, British officials were Surprised to find that he and his wife Jenny both spoke perfect English of the American variety. In fact, he was the son of a distinguished musician, Artur Rodzinski, and had been educated internationally: childhood schooling in Ameri-ca, high school in Poland, and then at Columbia University, where he took a history degree. As for Jermy, whom he had married in 1941, she had grown up in the Ukrainian community of a Pennsylvania steel town.

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When the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, Artur Rodzinski was conducting the New York Philhar-monic Orchestra at the Carnegie Hall. He announced the news and signalled to the orchestra to strike up The Star Spangled Banner. It is said that every young man in the hall enlisted the next day. One who certainly did so was the newly-married and newlygraduated Witold.

He became a bomber pilot and was posted to the base in Corsica immortalised in Joseph Heller's novel Catch-22. Later, Rodzinski always insisted that the book was a faithful documentary, devoid of fantasy or exaggeration.

In his youth, and much to his father's displeasure, he had become a dedicated Communist. At high school in the 1930s in Zakopane (southern Poland) he had taken serious risks by smuggling illegal

pamphlets across the mountains from Slovakia. In later life, when he acquired a remote cottage in these mountains, he still knew all the footpaths.

His special interest was Chinese history, and his only political heresy was a belief that Mao Zedong, and not Stalin, had been strategically right in 1927. In 1947 he returned to a devastated Poland, along with Jenny who had never been there. He took up a lectureship at Warsaw University, but the Communist Party authorities decided that he could be most useful in a different capacity, and in the 1950s he served as press and cultural attaché in the Polish Embassy in Beijing. There he learnt to speak good Manda-rin and laid the foundations of a fine collection of Chinese

scroll paintings.

After a period back in academic life, Rodzinski was dispatched to London, where he was Ambassador from 1960 to 1964. Although he carried out his duties scrupulously, he had become disiffusioned with the intolerance and dishonesty of the Communist system. Friendships made in Britain, notably with Denis Healey and Michael Foot, drew him to an appreciation of democratic socialism.

Since his wife and two daughters were with him, he considered staying in this country at the end of his tour of duty. However, he could not reconcile himself to the role of defector and the plaudits of the capitalist press.

Plucked yet again from university teaching, he was back in Beijing, this time as Ambas-sador. While he was there, the Cultural Revolution broke out: Rodzinksi was able to perceive the distress it caused to the Foreign Minister, Zhou En-



lai. A main target of the Red Guards was the "revisionism" of the Soviet Union, and the Soviet Embassy was surrounded night and day by screaming mobs. The Russians decided to send their wives and children home, but it was far from certain that they could get safely to the airport, or indeed from their buses to the plane. Rodzinski organised,

and personally headed, a volunteer force drawn from the staff of various embassies. Rugby players from the British Embassy came for-ward with enthusiasm. But it was a day of real danger and, though the operation was suc-

cessful, Rodzinski ended up with a broken arm. Eventually, the Soviet Union broke off relations with

China, and Poland, of course, followed suit. With great relief, Rodzinski returned to Warsaw University and to working on a massive, two-volume history of China, which he wrote in English. But he was now considered politically unreliable, with suspicious links with the West. He was never given a professorship and was gradually nudged into early retire-

ment. There were also delays in producing a Polish version of the history. The two volumes, as written, appeared in London in 1979 and 1983. Unfortunately on the advice of Labour Party friends, the author entrusted it to Pergamon Press, owned by Robert Maxwell, and never got his full royalties.

A revised version, condensing the two volumes into one. entitled The Walled Kingdom, was published by Collins in 1984. It was recognised as a standard work and is used in university teaching in many countries. Rodzinski followed it in 1988 with The People's Republic of China, a fuller account of the conflicts and upheavals since Mao took power in 1949. Written from careful research and some inside experience, it had few rivals in its field, Respected in British scholarly circles, especially in Cambridge, Rodzinski revisited this country several times and was Visiting Fellow at Clare Hall.

In personal terms, Rodzinksi endured much unhappiness. His much-loved younger daughter, Irina, lost her life in a mountain accident in 1974. Witold and Jenny both suffered illness in later years. He had been attacked by tuberculosis on his first day in China and, after various operations and treatments, was left with only one lung. His eyesight also deteriorated until he could scarcely read; he was sustained by his love of music and a great record collection. He had, to rare degree, the character of a scholar. It was history itself - the violent history of the 20th century that imposed on him the burdens of a man of action.

He is survived by his wife Jenny, and his daughter

### **HENRY CHARNOCK**

Henry Charmock, CBE, FRS, meteorologist and oceanographer, died on November 27 aged 76. He was born on December 25, 1920.

WHEN Henry Charnock joined the wartime Royal Air Force, weather forecasting was an art illuminated by the science of meteorology. Numerical forecasting had been adumbrated by I. F. Richard-son two decades before, but the computers needed for its practical achievement were still far away. The science needed for the construction of successful models, particularly of boundary layer interac-

tions, had yet to be done. Similarly, when he joined the embryo National Institute of Oceanograpny in 1949 at the invitation of its first director, George Deacon, physical oceanography was very much a pioneering discipline based on a few measurements made with simple apparatus on special expeditions or from ships of opportunity.

Charnock played an important role, both as a scientist and as an administrator, in helping to bring both subjects to something like maturity, with the processes of the ocean and atmosphere being understood both broadly and, in some aspects, in detail. Weather forecasting by computer is now routine, as is the prediction of the short-term behaviour of water movements in shelf seas. Scientific understanding and the use of credible climate models incorporating both ocean and atmosphere have now convinced many nations that they need to reduce the production of greenhouse gases and ozone

depleting chemicals. Henry Charnock left Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Blackburn, at 16 for a job in a gas-mask factory. After studies at night school and technical college he took a London University external degree. When war came he joined the Royal Air Force. When it ended he was forecasting for the RAF in loeland, having been sent there when he failed to predict weather that froze in the flying-boats on Lough Neagh. He anticipated official arrangements by hitching a ride home in a trawler.

Imperial College to study meteorology under Peter Sheppard. There he gained not only a firm grasp of the science but also a group of friends who would last and be influential for the remainder of his career. It was there, too, that he started the work on turbulent interchanges in the oceanic and atmospheric boundary layers that was to be at the core of his personal scientific achievement.

He was to return to Imperial College for a short spell in 1958-59 as a Reader in Physical Oceanography but he found himself uncomfortable, he later confessed, because the post seemed to have no specific duties. This was followed by a three-year stint as head of the oceanography group at the Saclant laboratory at La Spezia and then, in 1966, by his appointment as Professor of Physical Oceanography at the University of Southampton.

When Sir George Deacon retired in 1971. Charnock seemed his natural successor as Director of the National Institute of Oceanography, although he made it clear that he would accept the appointment only if the Natural Environment Research Council maintained the institute's fully interdisciplinary character. He had to reassert this position a number of times over the next few years.

In 1973 the research council decided to merge two of its smaller marine laboratories with the National Institute of Oceanography, under Char-nock's direction, to form the Institute of Oceanographic Sciences, but the promise of a more harmonious period was soon threatened by the arguments about funding that followed the Government's decision, on Lord Rothschild's recommendation, to transfer responsibility for applied research to Departments of State. An acceptable settlement was eventually reached and the institute did much useful work under the new arrangements. Perhaps its most important commission was a programme of research on the feasibility of ocean disposal of radioactive waste, a possibility recognised by Charnock 20 years earlier.

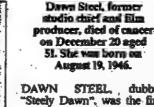
In 1978 Charnock accepted an invitation to return to Southampton. He stayed there as professor until his retirement in 1986 when he became emeritus professor. He had long believed that government research institutes should be closely associated with universities and during his first period as professor had negotiated a concordat between the National Institute of Oceanography and Southampton. A month before he died he was working on boundary roughness in the new laboratory

His return to Southampton freed him from much administrative drudgery and allowed him a long and highly productive period in teaching and research, and participat ing in the affairs of the Royal Society, which had elected him a Fellow in 1976. He was also After the war he went to active in national and international discussion of scientific affairs. A ten-year spell as a member of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution was, no doubt, an important factor in his appointment as CBE in 1992.

> mances in committees were matched by a love of the performing arts, particularly music his fondness for Beethoven's quartets seeming to be a natural complement to his own intellectual rigour and deep compassion. Out-ofdoors he enjoyed walking. from the daily journey to work to the climb out of the Grand Canyon in his seventies and the ascent of Snowdon with his wife Mary on their golden wedding anniversary. He is survived by her and their son and two daughters.

Charnock's virtuoso perfor-

#### **DAWN** STEEL



DAWN STEEL, dubbed "Steely Dawn", was the first woman to head a Hollywood studio. She never understoodthe words "no" or "it can't be done", and exhibited the qualities suggested by her last name, always considering toughness, resilience and a cold glint to be attributes in ber business. They made her the most powerful woman in Hollywood, and she generously helped other women to follow her.

She oversaw the production of a string of hits before striking out on her own as an independent producer. Yet in her autobiography, They Can Kill You But They Can't Eat You: Lessons from the Front (1993), she admitted her bravado was partly a mask for insecurity.

Dawn Steel was born Dawn Spielberg in the Bronx in 1946 and grew up in Manhattan. Her mother Lillian was a businesswoman, her father Nat a zip-salesman and amateur weightlifter, who changed the family name to Steel to highlight his athletic prowess and (as he saw it) to remove any potentially damaging ethnic taint. Dawn Steel studied market-

ing at New York University, and worked as a sportswriter and marketing assistant before taking a job on the magazine Penthouse as director of its X-rated mail-order business. It was there that she first displayed her talent for marketing, when she suggest-ed selling amaryllis plants through the mail, highlighting their phallic appearance. The ploy was a gigantic hit, and Steel progressed through the company, working her way up to merchandising director before going her own way as a

in 1975, seeing how obsessed women had become with status. Steel began selling toilet paper inked with the Gueci logo. Immediately she was sued by the Italian company, and the New York tabloids delighted in covering the David and Goliath story they christened the "toilet paper caper". Steel lost the case, but the attendant publicity enhanced her reputation as someone who could capitalise on a trend, and after her first marriage ended in 1978 she moved to Hollywood to work at Paramount Pictures. One friend had predicted that if she could sell toilet tissue, she could surely sell movies.

Indeed she could. Joining the marketing department, she quickly established her reputation as a woman with an eye for a gimmick. It was Steel who suggested that the promotion of the movie Star Trek be supplemented by merchandising tie ins, and the success of the strategy saw her move into production.

As a studio producer, she

doggedly championed movies such as Flashdance, Footloose, Top Gun and The Accused, all of which focused on outsiders breaking through barriers and winning acceptance, just the way she saw herself as having done. It is one of the great American paradigms.

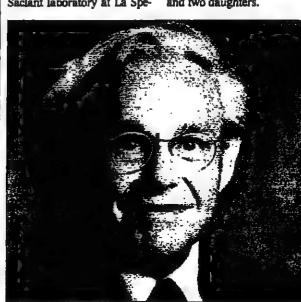
In 1985 the president of Paramount, Ned Tanen, appointed Steel president of production, but two years later he dismissed her, reportedly because of personality conflicts. Undaunted, and exhibiting the grit for which she had become famous, she took up the reins at Columbia Pictures, which had been in turmoil after a disastrous 18 months under the British director David Puttnam.

As president of Columbia she was the highest ranking woman in Hollywood, and again she spawned a string of hits, including When Harry Met Sally, Look Who's Talking and Postcards from the Edge. Though she made her mark with highly commercial films, she said recently that the high point of her tenure at Columbia was overseeing the restoration and reissue of David Lean's Lawrence of

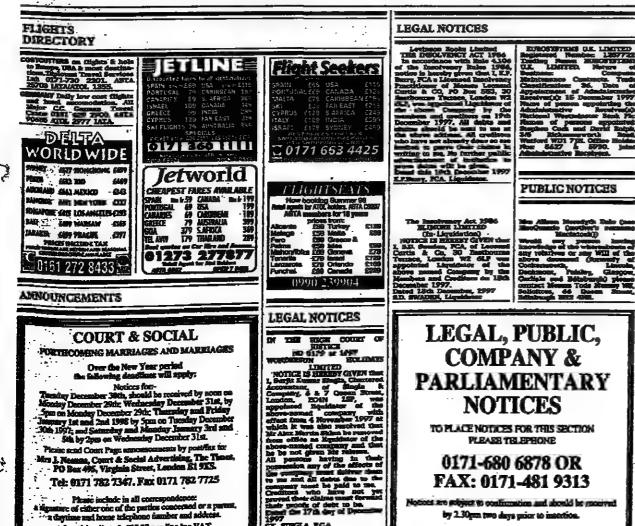
Steel left Columbia in 1991 to become an independent producer, forming Atlas Pictures with her second husband, Charles Roven. Under that banner she produced the hit Cool Runnings, a comedy about a bobsled team from tropical Jamaica. Often described as the lead-

er of the first generation of American "power women". Steel admitted to being a perfectionist, but she was quick to point out that her male colleagues were highly demanding and aggressive too. In an interview in 1993 she said being a movie executive was exhausting, and tended to "bring out the worst in people". But among women in Hollywood she was respected and admired. She believed that her success gave her a responsibility to open doors for other women, and she appointed many to jobs as executives, producers and directors.

Outside the movie business, Steel was a strong supporter of Democratic causes in California. She is survived by her husband and daughter.



### PERSONAL COLUMN



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#### THE FUNERAL OF HIS LATE **ROYAL HIGHNESS**

THE PRINCE CONSORT

The Prince of Wales hore up with great fortitude, and though he, like all the rest, at times gave way to irrepressible bursts of tears, he evidently tried to the utmost to restrain his feelings, though it could be seen sometimes from the working of his countenance that the effort was too violent for long endurance.

The Duke of Saxe-Coburg, who was devotedly attached to the deceased Prince, to

whom he bears a strong resemblance, was deeply moved and wept incessantly throughout the ceremony. The Grown Prince of Prossia, too, was equally affected. Poor little Prince Arthur's grief was enough to move the sternest. He of course made no attempt to check or hide his feelings. His eyes were red and swollen, and the tears were running down his cheeks as he entered the Chanel. As they stood at the head of their father's collin, the Prince of Wales turned and spoke, apparently, a few soothing words, for after this Prince Arthur, for a minuse or so, seemed to bear up better. It was not until the procession began to move forward, and the long melancholy wail of the darge went

#### ON THIS DAY

December 24, 1861 

There were no stiff upper lips on this occasion, one notable for the absence of the Queen who mourned at Osborne. Prince Arthur, the seventh of the Queen's nine children, died in 1942. The paper's report ran to more than 12,000 words enclosed in thick black rules.

echoing through the building, that all the little fellow's fortitude gave way, and, hiding his face in his handkerchief, he sobbed as if his very heart was breaking. As the procession advanced, the commencement of the Burial Service, "I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord," was sung by the full choir to the music of Dr. Croft. At the conclusion of the first portion, the bier had crept slowly down to the western extremity of the church, where it was gently moved up the incline to the platform up the nave. At the nave was commenced the passage, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," still sung to Croft's melan-

inexpressibly mournful in its long soft cadences. All the servants of the late Prince stood in the nave as the bier passed, all seemed deeply moved, and the grief of many was quite audible. With the concluding words of the passage, "We brought nothing into this world," the bier was moved up very slowly, its gorgeous pall concealing the bearers, who slowly wheeled it forward with a stiff, creeping motion, into the choir. It was nearly 20 minutes before the cloth-covered platform over the entrance to the Royal vault was reached. Those walking at the feet of the corpse filed off to the right and left as the bier neared the Communion rails, and was slowly placed, amid solemn silence, on the spot whence it was to be lowered out of sight for ever . . . By the time these arrangements were completed the chant of the 39th Psalm, "I said I will take heed to my ways that I offend not with my tongue," had concluded, and as the last faint tones of the music died away the platform on which the bier stood was slowly owered till the coffin itself was level with the floor. The pail was then disposed around it equally on all sides, so as to cover all the opening leading to the depth below, and the Crown and Field-Marshal's insignia were placed at the head and feet ...

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#### Prince matches Blair's poll rating

The Prince of Wales has become as popular as Tony Blair after a big swing of public opinion in his favour since the death of his former wife, according to a MORI poll for The Times. More than three-fifths of those questioned were satisfied

with the way the Prince is doing his job, suggesting that the public approves of his new approach to public appearances and of his relationship with his sons since their mother died in

#### Schools may introduce five-term year

■ Some schools are being asked to replace their three-term academic year with one of five eight-week terms to see if it improves attendance and performance. Pupils would have twoweek breaks between terms, but the long summer holiday would survive...

#### Family affair

Jasper Carrott's actress daughter is recovering after receiving a kidney from her mother. Lucy Davis. who plays Hayley in The Archers. has suffered from renal illness for three years and her mother. Hazel, stepped in because of a shortage of dead donors ...... Page 1

#### Boycott rules

Millions of young boys in India have become Geoffrey Boycott devotees, crying out such phrases as "roobish" and "roon, you lazy booger". One group were given six of the best for their trouble ..

#### IRA honeymoon

The Brighton bomber Patrick Magee was released from the Maze prison to spend ten days with the woman he quietly married this summer. The IRA terrorist was one of 86 republican and 74 loyalist prisoners allowed ....Page 2 Christmas leave ...

#### Death flight

A company director facing financial ruin learnt to fly with the sole intention of killing himself. On his first solo flight, Terence Brand flew 2,00ft over Dorset and plunged into the sea ....... Page 3 **Doctors' distress** 

More than 5.000 junior hospital

doctors are still working excessive hours, leaving them overtired, bad-tempered and putting patients at risk, the British Medical 

#### Stroke of luck

Farty diets may not be as deadly as some doctors have claimed; in fact a new study has shown that a small increase in fat intake can cut the risk of stroke by 15 per

#### Price of love

The cost of buying a true love presents over the twelve days of Christmas has more than trebled to £21,547.59...

#### Back to the cold

A growing number of Americans are giving up on adopted Russian and Romanian children because they cannot cope with their destructiveness....

#### Tibet rebuff

China rejected a call by the international Commission of Jurists for a UN-supervised referendum to allow Tibetans to express their views. It said Tibet's affairs were an internal matter ......Page 9

#### Train gang

A secret spy ring known as the "Railway Men" helped British intelligence units to keep track of Soviet troop trains in East Germany right up to the day the Berlin Wall came down ... Page 10

#### Air crash escape

Eighty-nine people survived almost unscathed after their aircraft crash-landed in a Bangladeshi ricefield, skidding to a halt with a wing torn off and the undercarriage wrecked ... Page 11

#### Parents seek schoolwear sponsors

Parents in Grimsby are offering local companies advertising space on their children's school uniforms to try to raise £14.000 to recruit an extra teacher. Two teachers at South Parade Infants School are on extended sick leave and the school cannot afford a replacement. That means seven-year-olds are being taught in classes of 36 instead of 24......



Board meeting: A boy catching the surf on Ipanema beach in Rio de Janiero, where temperatures are in the high mineties

insurance: BAT and Zurich have revised the terms of the merger of their financial services business to give the Swiss a bigger percentage of the new company ....... Page 19

Timetable: London and Continental Railways, which was promised £1.4 billion to run a high-speed link between London and the Channel Tunnel, has again run into trouble trying to meet its construction .Page 19

Lloyd's: A Lloyd's of London insurance broker has been suspended for six months and fined £50,000 over a deal linked to the Panama-..Page 19 Canal

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index rose 31.6 points to close at 5049.8. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose 

Football: Jürgen Klimsmann may make his debut for Tottenham against Aston Villa on Boxing Day after the Italian FA cleared him to play in England .....

Racing: Richard Dunwoody is enjoying himself far more now that he has discovered that there is more to being a jockey than riding .Page 32

Paul Standbridge, the British skipper of Toshiba, near the head of the fleet in the Whithread Round the World Race - until a navigational 

Cricket: Australia are hoping that Glenn McGrath, their fast bowler. will be fit in time for the first Test against South Africa in Melbourne on Boxing Day ....

Films of the week: Spiceworld, the much-hyped Spice Girls movie, hits the screens this week. But Geoff Brown believes that adult cinemagoers will prefer the revival of Orson Welles's The Magnificent

Fline of the year: From L.A. Confidential to Mike Leigh's Career Girls, Geoff Brown picks the best of \_\_\_Page 27

Ambersons...

**ARTS** 

Play time: Natural Theatre Company presents an agreeable comic retelling of the William Tell story at the Purcell Room ... ....Page 26

Family tales: The Sawalha acting clan, father and daughters, take to the stage to celebrate family relationships in a sentimental show called Dearest Daddy ... Darling

FRIDAY

IN THE TIMES

low notes in the arts and

A year of high and

industries: Richard

EDUCATION

How Salisbury's

broke the mould

Christmas choristers

Morrison looks back

entertainment-

Varadarajan has a bleak midwinter in New York..... Page 12 Frantic asssor: Last-minute decorations, dealing with relatives,

Faith at last: Catherine Lucas was

an ameist scornful of belief and

i wish: Whatever you do, don't wish

anyone "Merry Christmas". Tunku

what games to play ... Christmas can be more of a framic than a festive season so The Forces advises on how to cope with any unforeseen Page 13

Snow spot: If you've ever craved a chalet in the French alps, the strength of the pound makes it a: House mouse: Katherine Bergen discovers how easy it is to find a home on the Internet ...... Page 28 Star quality: How do the rich and famous go about buying and selfing their homest is it time for unaccustomed anonymity or the moment to cash in on celebrity? Page 28

Does France have to get used build cities? Apparently, the question is taboo. The question, however, is

imposing itself several nights a week in troubled suburbs −Le Monde TV & RADIO

Full listings for Christmas Day and Boxing Day ...... Pages 33. 34

#### OPHION A birth in Bethlehem

The story of that birth is told not as an obituary notice or a biographer might tell it, but as Gospel -"Good News" - told from the perspective of an ending that is not death but resurrection...... Page 15

#### Bad tidings

So far, the Japanese and Korean governments have been too paralysed by fear to act rationally. They must stop panicking and start acting ...

#### A place for protocol

The particularly gracious habits of monarchy buy Britain's politicians a respect abroad that endures long after landslides have been . Page 15 eroded.

#### COLUMNS

#### SIMON JENKINS

Only stones bonded by faith can have held back ocean storms for half a millennium. These churches are shrines whose atmosphere manages to shift the burden of proof. They send the atheist on his way enveloped in doubt .... Page 14

#### ALAN COREN Since you ask, I was not interested

In Yul Brynner's hat. I was not even interested in Ingrid Bergman's earrings, Edward G. Robinson's cabin trunk, or Stanley Holloway's Bluthner ...

#### JOHN BAYLEY

Over the festive season the world. can find calmness for a few days... London streets are tranquil and pleasant to stroll in. Even the sky seems quieter ... ...Page 14 **NIGELLA LAWSON** 

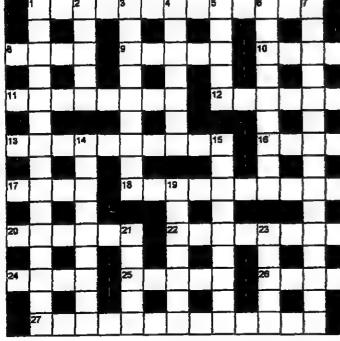
Female employees rightly mind when they are not given the promotion they deserve because they are pregnant or have children. So how can we demand that our employers take those obligations into account

when it suits us? ...

Witold Rodzinski, historian and diplomat; Henry Charnock, ocean-ogsarider, Dawn Steel, film pro-

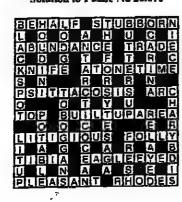
Frank Allaum on grassroots Labour "despair"; Crime and Disorder Bili; shared faith; privacy and a 

#### THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,671



- I Metro ride chap arranged to see Parisian Jandmark (3.2.8).
- S Cat Whittington's first seen with 11 (4). 9 Drank excessively on return to
- regimental HQ (5).
- 10 Refrain from Idn. boy (4). 11 She helped to introduce Christ-
- mas tree here in station (8). 12 Provided the necessary material
- for a seasonal ball (6). 13 Uncle's protector who drops in on
- Christmas Eve (2.8).
- 16 Holly helping to make domicile Ymassy (4).
- 17 Congregate for service (4). 18 Employ this organisation believ-
- ing in diversity? (10). 20 Chinese work hard in decoration

of Christmas cake (1.5). Solution to Puzzle No 20.670



22 Government department making some cars do test (8). 24 Prison ship (4).

25 Going by air, three early Christmas Day arrivals I spotted (5). 26 Star travelling from the East to

area in West (4). 27 Peer in bad government who's leading Christmas revels? (4.2.7).

! Book one of the seasonal musical acts (1.9.5L

2 Experience trouble with extremely confused topic (3.2).

3 Tree's fruit found in church office 4 Artist following the likes of Mil-

lais, you might wrongly infer [7]. 5 People swear by them (5). 6 I'm appearing with eat in light

entertainment for Christmas? (9). 7 Geezer, once soher, drunk --Christmas spirits transformed

14 Popular and lively type having a

15 Evil group corrupted assistant (9). 19 Scholar in a form of Islam converted to Eastern religion (7). 21 Relish being in the ring after

sudden blow? (5). 23 High-class supporters turned up in utter confusion (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 36

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NEWSPAPERS

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### PORECAST

General: Much of England and Wajes will be duit and wet, although northern England will have some dry and bright spells before more rain arrives this alternoon. Most of Scotanives this alteriodic. Wost of Sout-land, after early rein in the east, will become dry with sunny spells. A few showers will affect the north, where it will also be windy. Northern Ireland will have some afternoon rain after a mostly bright and dry start. It will be

mild everywhere, but it will become increasingly windy in the south. Condon, SE England, E Angla, E England: mid, but mainly cloudy with rain at times. A fresh southwesterly wind. Max 15C (59F). ☐ Central S England, E Midlands W Midlands, Channel Islas: mid

but mostly dull with outbreaks of rain. A moderate to fresh southwesterly wind. Max 14C (57F)

SW England, S Wales, N Wales:
rather dult with rain on and off all day, although it will be mid. A strong southwesterly wind Max 14C (57F).

I NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England, NE

England: mainly cloudy with rain early and late. Few bright spells. A light to moderate southerly wind. Max

☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orloney, Strettand: early rain inten surry spells. More rain fater. Wind strong, southerly, easing later. Max 12C (54F).

☐ SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyli, NW Scotland: mainly dry with surry spells. Rain later. The wind will ease to a moderate southwesterly. Max 12C (54F).

☐ N Ireland: occasional showers in the west. Surny spells elsewhere but ☐ N Ireland: occasional snowers in the west. Sunny spells elsewhere but rain by afternoor. A light to moderate southerly wind. Max 11C (52F).
☐ Republic of Ireland: rain spreading north. Wind southerly fresh, later strong or gale, possible severe gales. Mild Max 11C (52F).
☐ Outlook: Christmas Day will be servery and mild with some rain in meet

windy but mild, with some rain in most places. It will stay windy on Boxing Day, but it will turn slightly cooler with a modure of sunstaine and showers

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

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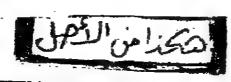
Changes to the chart below from noon; low H will deepen and move northeast.

Low V will drift north with little change. Low X will drift southeast and fill.



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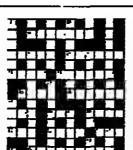
### **ECONOMICS**

Janet Bush watches West hunt tigers PAGE 23



#### HOMES

How estate agents deal with celebrity houses PAGE 28



#### SPORT

Test your sporting knowledge **PAGES 29-36**  TELEVISION AND RADIO **PAGES** 

34, 35

**BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft** 

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 24 1997

## BAT's stake in Zurich merger cut by £1bn

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

BAT INDUSTRIES has been forced to reduce its stake in the proposed £25 billion merger between its financial services operations (BAFS) and Zurich, the Swiss insurance company, in an agreement that effectively cuts the value of the holding by £1 billion.

The revised proposals mean that Zurich shareholders will now own 57 per cent of the merged Zurich Financial Services Group (ZPS), while BAT Industries shareholders will hold 43 per cent. Under the original deal, the split was 55 per cent to Zurich and 45 per cent to BAT.

Analysts claim that Zurich has renogotiated the deal because it was originally deemed to be "too good to be true" for BAT.

Despite the favourable reaction to the demerger when it was announced two months ago, BAT's share price has fallen nearly 12 per cent, while Zurich's has risen 4 per cent. BAT's decline has been attributed to continuing uncertainty about US smoking legislation 60 per cent of BAT Industries's profits come from

British American Tobacco. Legislation could raise the price of cigarettes by up to a quarter in the US. That has out pressure on BAT Industries to demerge its financial services operations, including Allied Dunbar, Eagle Star and Threadneedle in the UK, and

Some analysts believe that Zurich's shareholders were unlikely to vote in favour of the original proposal, which, according to Tom Bennett, an analyst at Paribas, "offered a deal that will dilute earnings, dilute earnings growth and heavily dilute net worth per

The new agreement now looks almost certain to go through. If either party drops out, they will have to pay a. sentation to

Martin Broughton, BAT chief executive, left, Rolf Huppi and Lord Cairns, right, launched the merger in October

penalty of about £180 million. Zurich, said: "This definitive agreement represents an important step in the formation of a new global force in the financial protection and investment management busi-

Although the BAT stake in the new company has been reduced, the board will continue to be split equally between the two companies. However, some still believe that Zurich is paying too much for BAT's financial services business.

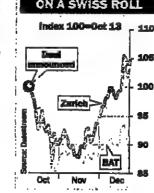
paying around £10 billion for BAT's insurance companies. These companies have tangible net worth of £2.4 billion on BAT's accounting base and £1.2 billion under Zurich's acounting base." He added: "Our consideration of the benefits of the BAFS acquisition leave us somewhat nonplussed as to why Zurich

seems so keen to do the deal." Under the new terms and conditions, British American Tobacco will now receive £500 million in securities from ZFS

Mr Bennett said: "Zurich is rather than £500 million in cash as was originally envisaged. BAT Industries stated that this will not make any difference to its shareholders.

Lord Cairns, chairman of BAT Industries, said: "I am confident that BAT Industries shareholders will benefit from their investment in an enlarged world-class insurance business, as well as from the sharper focus to tobacco and financial services that will result from the merger."

Tempus, page 22



## Goldman has \$4bn to spend on Japanese loan portfolios

GOLDMAN SACHS, the US investment bank, wants to spend \$4 billion (£2.5 billion) on buying loans from troubled Japanese banks in the first big bargain-hunting effort since the Asian financial market crisis erupted.

Goldman has opened negotiations with several banks to buy asset-hacked loans and is reported to have done a \$100 million deal with Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, buying

loans that are primarily collateralised by land.
Japanese banks, hit hard by the Asian financial crisis, are among the country's largest landowners and many are now being forced to sell loans at bargain prices to bail out broking operations. Many of the loans are secured against Tokyo real estate, which has seen price falls of 70 per cent.

If Goldman manages to spend its entire planned warchest, its purchase would be equivalent to one eighth of ali Japanese bad loans.

The US investment bank is already a big investor in land and real estate in America, owning, for example, a 50 per cent stake in New York's Rockefeller Center.

Goldman's purchase of Japa-

nese loan portfolios could smooth its entry into Japan's financial markets, which are due to be opened up to foreign firms shortly. The US investment bank was recently subject of speculation about a possible takeover of Sumitomo Bank, the second largest bank.

Other American banks with experience of repackaging loans are expected to follow Goldman's lead. Wall Street earned millions from bundling and selling Latin American debt after the financial crises of the late 1980s and early 1990s. Goldman's move will also be

seen as a vote of confidence in Asian markets at current.

extremely depressed levels.

closed for a public holiday yesterday but South Korean markets continued to implode. Confidence was rocked by remarks in a newspaper interview by Kim Dae Jung, the President-elect. He said that he was flabbergasted by the extent of the crisis and even mentioned the possibility that South Korea was on the brink

of bankruptcy.

Another blow came when Fitch IBCA, the international credit rating agency, gave South Korea its worst rating yet, judging its long-term foreign currency debt to be worth only a B minus, six notches below investment grade. Moody's Investor Services and Standard & Poor's cut South Korea's rating to "junk bond" status on Monday.

The stock market plunged by a record 7.5 per cent and the won slumped to yet another record low against the dollar. Interest rates on benchmark three-year corporate bonds with bank guarantees soared to a record 31.45 per cent, before recovering slightly to close at 31.11 per cent.

The heads of foreign banks

operating in South Korea held

an emergency meeting yesterday to decide whether to roll over loans to local financial institutions that are struggling with chronic dollar shortages. Lee Kyung Shick, Governor of the Bank of Korea, began a four-day visit to Japan where he is expected to ask top bankers for help in securing

foreign loans for South Kore-

an institutions.

Leading article, page 15 Commentary, page 21 become the world supplier. Page 21

#### **BUSINESS** TODAY

STOCK MARKET

\$\$\$. \$\$\$ 1.7748\* 5,9360\* 1,4338\* 129,97\* 108,4

Tokyo close Yen Closed NORTH SEA OIL Brent 15-day (Mar) | \$17.55 (\$17.40)

London close..... 8293.35 (\$192.45)

#### Settlement

More than 30 Wall Street banks are expected to agree to pay \$1 billion (£590 million) to settle the biggest class action suit over investors. The case began in 1994 after a stock manipulation ring was exposed. Page 20 Page 20

ICI deal

ICI Australia is to buy the explosives business of its former parent in Britain for A\$570 million (£229 million). ICI Australia will become the world's largest

25%

#### Investors sue Danka in Florida

DANKA Business Systems, the troubled photocopier group that has seen its stock market value plunge by more than £1 billion, is being sued by investors in the US for allegedly making false and misleading statements about its business prospects (Jason Nissé writes). A class action writ was filed yesterday in Florida, where many of Danka's senior managers are based, claiming that Danka had misled the

market about how well it was integrating the £438 million purchase of the office imaging division of Eastman Kodak in July. This artifically inflated the share price of the group. A warning about pros-pects from Danka last week brought a collapse in the group's share price from a high of 787 2p to

2842p yesterday. Mark Vaughan-Lee. dismissed the action, saying: "Lawsuits are the national sport in America."

### LCR late again on tunnel link

By Mark Court

LONDON and Continental Railways, the company that was promised £1.4 billion of taxpayers' money to run a high-speed link between London and the Channel Tunnel, has fallen behind its construction timetable for a second time.

The company pledged in mid-November that it would appoint contractors for £500 million of tunnelling work by Christmas. It had missed an earlier deadline, in late summer, for awarding the first big construction package on the £3 billion project.
As the Christmas deadline

slipped by, an LCR source admitted that it was unlikely that any of the four key contracts for tunnelling work under London would be signed before next year.

An LCR spokeswoman said:
"Discussions are continuing with shortlisted contractors. It is important these discussions reach a satisfactory conclusion even if it takes slightly more time than originally planned. The negotiations will be com-

pleted early in the new year. LCR, which plans to raise £5.4 through a flotation by the

middle of next year, has attracted speculation about its financial viability. The com-pany, whose shareholders include Virgin, National Ex-press and SBC Warburg, the merchant bank, is holding talks with Railtrack and six other possible partners to join the project.

Construction sources say the delay has been caused by the client's efforts to ensure that contractors carry the bulk of any cost overruns. A contractor bidding for work on the project said: "The contract conditions have changed and the client wants to quantify some of the risks. We were asked to put in a price for carrying the risk of unforeseen ground conditions."

A joint venture of Amec and Balfour Beatty is expected to win the £350 million contract to build tunnels and a huge concrete station box at Stratford in East London.

#### Pound hits exports at last

BRITISH exports are finally showing signs of suffer-ing from the strength of sterling (Janet Bush writes). Britain reported a trade deficit with the rest of the world in October of £1.35 billion, the largest trade gap since October 1995, and compared with a deficit in September of £1.25 billion, according to the Office for National Statistics.

Figures for non-EU trade in November showed the gap widening to £1.06 billion from £858 billion in October. This was the largest non-EU deficit since October, 1995. The culprit was a slow-

down in export volumes, down J.5 per cent over the past three months in trade with non-EU countries. At the same time, buoyant consumer demand at home is sucking in imports strongly.
ONS statisticians said the

underlying trend is a widen-ing of Britain's overall trade deficit. City economists blamed the strength of the pound and weaker exports to Asia as demand implodes. Fading resilience, page 23

### Lloyd's broker suspended

By Jon Ashworth

A PROMINENT Lloyd's bro- Discrepancies between slips, ker has been suspended for six months and ordered to pay E50,000 for orchestrating a secret profit on a deal linked to the Panama Canal.

Anthony Frost, former chairman of Citicorp Insurance Brokers, is the first person to be suspended by Lloyd's this year. Well-known in the market in the late 1980s. he has admitted five charges of misconduct linked to conducting insurance business in a discreditable manner. Mr Frost made no direct

personal gain from his dealings. His suspension aside, he has been fined £10,000 and ordered to pay Lloyd's costs of £40,000. He has also been censured. The misconduct arose in respect of a contract that Citicorp entered into with the Panama Canal Commission (PCC) in April 1990, and was subsequently renewed.

Citicorp Insurance Brokers changed its name to Nelson Hurst Insurance Brokers after a management buyout in 1991. cover notes and debit notes on the PCC contract resulted in profit of \$150,000 (£90,361) over a five-year period. The money was returned to the PCC with interest - a total of \$181,664 (E109,436) — in April 1996, soon after the matter

came to light. Mr Frost was responsible for the PCC contract throughout the relevant period. He had left the company by the time that the discrepancies came to light.
The action against him

marks a continuation of the tough disciplinary line taken by Lloyd's. Details of disciplinary actions, previously circulated internally, have been made public since September 1996. New by-laws gave Lloyd's the power to impose fixed penalty fines, and circulate the details to a wider

Lloyd's recently banned three brokers in the space of less than three weeks after findings of misconduct.



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## Knickerbox falls victim to poor Christmas sales

By Fraser Nelson

■ KNICKERBOX, the last refuge for many men who cannot think of anything else to buy their partners, has collapsed into insolvency after claiming it is the first victim of the slowdown in high street spending. The underwear chain, which, with Tie Rack and Sock Shop, led the

1980s niche retailing boom, said it

tills and a cashflow crisis. It has been passed into the hands of Buchler Phillips, the insolvency practitioner. which plans to keep its 44 stores running throughout the new year.

while keeping crediors at bay.

Simon Freakley, managing partner at Buchler Phillips, said: "Fundamentally, we have a business with a strong brand in a well-established niche that has excellent potential in has been sunk by lack of Christmas its marketplace. Its problems are shoppers and is now nursing empty exclusively connected to the slump in

Christmas sales — had things been better, they would have survived." He said he is confident of finding a buyer within the next six weeks. The administrator has not yet worked out

how much debt Knickerbox has, but is confident it is significantly less than the £4.6 million of net liabilities it was left with after last Christmas. Knickerbox, founded II years ago Janie Godber and Stephen Schaffer, a husband and wife team

who used to work at Marks &

Spencer, was one of the few retailers stock market debut 14 months ago, its to prosper in the 1991 recession — but it plunged into the red when the recovery set in. Gieves, the Savile Row tailor, paid

£660,000 for a 49.5 per cent stake in a rescue package. However, Knickerbox has not made a penny of profit for the past five years - with a pretax loss of £3.63 million last year. La Senza, Knickerbox's high street rival, is not doing much better. After

capitalisation has plunged 87 per cent. It is now priced at 22p a share a market value of £7.37 million. Analysts expressed surprise that

Knickerbox's financial recovery could have been scuppered in three weeks of quiet trading. Verdict, the retail research house, said yesterday that it has seen no signs of a spending slowdown. It exects high street sales to jump 9 per cent this December, to a series of profits warnings since its

## Lloyds TSB sells Factors to Bank of New York

BANKING CORRESPONDENT

LLOYDS TSB yesterday confirmed the sale of International Factors, the biggest of its three factoring subsidiaries, to the Bank of New York for an undisclosed sum.

The British bank said it would make a pre-tax profit of £160 million on the disposal of International Factors, which at at the end of November had total assets of £317 million. The company, which is based in Brighton and employs 500, offers factoring and invoice discounting services to UK and European small and mediumsized companies. It has net assets of £5 million.

Lloyds TSB Group decided to sell the subsidlary, after a strategic review, so that it might concentrate resources on its two other factoring businesses. Peter Ellwood, chief executive of Lloyds TSB, said: "The invoice discounting and factoring markets remain important to Lloyds TSB and we will continue to develop the business of both Alex Lawrie and TSB Commercial Finance.

Bank of New York said the acquisition of International Factors, coupled with its takeover of two UCB invoice discounting businesses in July, would provide a springboard for the bank's European expansion plans.

Joe Grimaldi, chairman and president of

BNY Financial Corporation, said the combined businesses amounted to a 20 per cent share of the UK factoring and invoice discounting market, probably making the American bank

the largest single player in the country.

Although Mr Grimaldi declined to guarantee the security of the 500 jobs at International Factors and the 70 positions at UCB, he said large-scale redundancies were highly unlikely.
In this industry, it is very difficult to find good people. Our intention isn't to buy and constrict, but to buy and expand," he said

Historically, the high-street banks have dominated the UK factoring industry. But the £40 billion market has in recent years become

highly attractive to foreign entrants, particular-ly American banks, because of its annual growth rate of 20 per cent. According to the Factors and Discounters Association, close to 21,000 companies now use the services of a

factoring or invoice discounting firm. Nick Blackwell, commercial director of Griffin, Midland Bank's factoring subsidiary, said the job of a good factor was to look at the total assets of a business and then say how it could make better use of them. "Often investors in a small business do not have any appente for equity. We provide an alternative," he said.

Commentary, page 2i

## Wall Street banks close to settling \$1bn claim

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

better stock prices.

THIRTY ONE Wall Street ca's second largest exchange. hanks are expected to agree to pay \$1 billion (£590 million) to settle the biggest ever classaction suit over securities fraud brought by investors.

Goldman Sachs, Merril Lynch, Morgan Stanley, Credit Suisse First Boston and Salomon Smith Barney are among the banks involved in the case that began in 1994 after a stock manipulation ring was exposed.

Traders on the Nasdaq Exchange in New York, Ameri-

### UK firm hopes for new Prozac approval

BY PAUL DURMAN

ELI LILLY, the US pharmaceutical group that makes Prozac. has filed for regulatory approval of an improved version of the anti-depressant developed by SkyePharma, the British drugs minnow headed by Ian Gowrie-Smith.

The prospect of sharing in the royalties from Prozac, which has annual sales of \$2.4 billion (E).4 billion), will be a significant boost to SkyePharma's credibility, which was badly damaged by a poorly timed fund raising in

Although Prozac has become a cultural icon in the US, it causes some users to feel sick or to suffer anxiety. Jago, SkyePharma's drug delivery arm, is believed to have developed a version that reduces or eliminates these side effects. Peter Laing, a Société Générale analyst, has suggested Jago may have combined Prozac with another drug in a single pill, citing Lilly-sponsored research pub-

lished in The Lancet. Prozac's patent protection is due to expire in four years. An improved version would allow Lilly to secure an extended period of freedom from competition. Even with the onset of cutprice competition for the original version. Mr Laing believes the improved drug should be able to achieve sales of more than \$1 billion a year. With a royalty of about 3 per cent, this would be worth \$30 million a year to SkyePharma, which lost £10,2 million in its most

recent half year. Lilly is believed to have filed its application with the US Food and Drug Administration this month, although the papers will not become public for sev-



Alan Dalby, left, chairman, and Vernon Sankey, chief executive of Reckitt & Colman, which is expanding in the US

## Reckitt buys four US brands

BY DOMINIC WALSH

RECKITT & COLMAN, the consumer goods conglomerate, is to bolster its position in North America through the acquisition of four household brands from SC Johnson & Co for \$160 million (£96 million).

against the banks and their traders, the National Association of Securities Dealers, which runs the Nasdaq market, was fined \$100 million

and forced to implement tighter supervision practises. Talks continued vesterday and a settlement could be reached by the end of the week. After a long period of inactivity, the negotiations accelerated recently, prompted by record profits of \$12 billion on Wall Street for the current

The plaintiffs' lawyers have

been keen to achieve a settle-

ment of at least \$1 billion to establish a high-water mark

for civil antitrust settlements.

Robert Skirnick, one of the

lawyers, said: "The evidence is

strong to support the conclu-

sion that never before in the history of stock trading have

so few people taken so much

Separately from the suit

money from so many."

The banks are now eager to tie up an agreement before the end of the year so that they might write the payment off

The settlement would need the approval of a judge in New York and investors would have the opportunity to opt out of the settlement to pursue separate claims.

Spray 'n Wash, Glass Plus, Vivid and Yes were inherited by Johnson as part of its recently agreed acquisition of Dow Chemical Company's consumer products business. graphic areas, and to focus on regulatory approval, but as

They are expected to produce a 1997 profit of \$16.2 million from sales of \$131 million. The acquisition involves only the brands, with manufacturing due to be transferred to Reckitt at a later stage.

Reckitt, whose brands include Harpic, Dettol and Lemsip, said the deal was in line with its stated strategy of using acquisitions "to fill gaps in core categories or geoin North America, while the Vivid - colour-safe bleach

number one and number two

Spray 'n Wash, a fabric care

nousehold brands".

brand, and Glass Plus, a glass cleaner, are both number two brand is number three. Together with Yes, a laundry detergent, they give Reckitt a strong position in the North American fabric care market. The deal is subject to US

suming it goes through in January, North America will account for 36 per cent of Reckitt & Colman's sales, compared with Europe's 31

in Australia, Reckitt has sold the rights to the Holbrook's and Newman's Worcestershire sauces for A\$14 million (E5.5 million) to Goodman Fielder food group.

## De Broe breaches panel code

WILLIAMS DE BROE, the corporate stockbroker, has been wrapped over the knuckles by the Takeover Panel for its failure to disclose an acquishare price subsequently rose by more than 20 per cent.

Morris Ashby, an engineering company, announced on December I that it was in talks that might lead to an offer for the company. Two days later, Automotive Components Investments (ACI) offered 400p per share, valuing the company at £49 million.

However, the Takeover Panel has discovered that Morris Ashby had begun discussions wth ACI's financial backer. Windward Capital Partners, in August. During the intervening period, Ashby

Morris shares rose from 280p to 345p, a 23 per cent rise. Stock Exchange rules dictate that where a company's share price rises by 10 or more per cent, its investment adviser should consult with the panel on any undisclosed takeover offer. Williams de Broe failed to do so, believing that

the share movement was the

statements about the company In this case, the panel accepted that Williams de Broe's failure to raise the matter was not as a result of a deliberate intent to prevent the Stock Exchange from making its own announcement. "Nevertheless, it had that effect and was therefore a breach of an essential code requirement.

#### Staffs at four banks JCI appoints Bray as to take strike action chief executive

By RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

FOUR high street banks face widespread disruption today as thousands of staff threaten to mount a one-day strike in separate disputes over pay

and working hours.

The Banking Insurance and Finance Union (Bifu) says its members will stage a walkout at Midland and Royal Bank of Scotland branches in protest at being made to work this afternoon, Christmas Eve. traditionally a holiday for banking staff. At the same time, Bifu members working for Yorkshire and Clydesdale

banks will take action over pay. They are complaining that the banks are offering below-inflation salary creases at a time when both

have posted record profits. Bifu claims that more than 20.000 staff could take part in the stoppage. However, all four banks expect the strike to have a minimal impact Yorkshire Bank said: "The strike has a low level of support. Up to 90 per cent of our branches will be unaffected and we are pretty confident

JCI, the South African mining group that is in merger talks with Louriso, has appointed Vaughan Bray as chief executive, after the decision last week by Mzi Khumalo, JCI's chairman, to relinquish his role Uason Nissé writes). Mr Bray is chief executive of Johnnies Industrial Corporation, which is chaired by Cyril Ramaphosa, who lost out to Mr Khumalo in the fight to gain control of JCl last year. Mr Khumalo, who is said to be close to Lourho, has fallen out with board members over the proposed purchase of 20

### Finsbury proposes merger with Wren

BY JON ASHWORTH

IN the latest in a wave of restructuring to sweep the Lloyd's insurance market Finsbury Underwriting Investment Trust is seeking to merge with Wren Holdings. Under the proposed deal, Finsbury will acquire the 85

per cent of the shares it does not already own in Wren, which manages syndicates with a total capacity of £294 million. The merged group, yet to be named, will have a market value of about £80 million. Wren's members' agency advises a total of £392 million capacity, including Finsbury's £70 million, which it has advised since 1993.

Shareholders vote on the merger in the new year. The deal has the support of Benfield and Rea Investment Trust, which owns 25 per cent of Wren, and 14.5 per cent of Finsbury. It is proposed that Robin Baillie of Finsbury will be chairman of the combined of Wren is expected to be named chief executive. Shares in Finsbury rose

9½ p to 150p.

First Call in £7.4m takeover by LMH FIRST CALL GROUP, the ticket agency, has agreed a £7.4

million takeover bid by Loyalty Management Holdings (LMH), which created the Air Miles scheme with British Airways. LMH is to set up a loyalty points programme offering discounted tickets for leisure events using First Call software and contacts. It has deals with an unnamed major retailer and a bank to provide the rewards programme in March. The scheme is expected to create 250 new jobs.

Keith Mills, chairman of the new company, said: "The vision for this new business is to build an operation capable of delivering travel, leisure, entertainment and sports products and services to consumers, using sophisticated reservations and booking technology." First Call is the UK's largest live entertainment ticketing agency. It also provides ticket sales services to the Wembley complex, although this contract is being terminated next Pebruary. Its turnover last year was £44.9 million with a pre-tax profit of £3.4 million. LMH is offering 10.25p per each First Call share. Yesterday the shares rose 34.p to 10p, against this year's high of 11p.

#### US oil and gas merger

OCEAN ENERGY and United Meridian, two American companies, are to merge, creating one of the largest independent oil and gas companies in the world, with a market capitalisation of \$3.1 billion (£1.89 billion) and assets of \$1.2 billion. Ocean Energy, based in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, said its holdings in the Gulf of Mexico and the southern United States would be combined with United Meridian's properties in West Africa. The merged company will also have assets in Asia. The combined companies will produce about 58,000 barrels of oil and 350 million cubic feet of gas a day.

### BT avoids Oftel action

OFFEL, the telecommunications regulatory body, has decided not to move against BT over cross subsidies to its Chargecard service. Oftel, which had been concerned that subsidies might keep out competition, said that BT had changed its Chargecard tariff and put in place a plan to end subsidies. Don Cruickshank, Director-General of Telecommunications, said: "I am pleased that BT has now taken the steps needed to enable competition to develop in this market." BT yesterday welcomed Oftel's decision not to take formal enforcement action.

### Vymura-Benetton deal

VYMURA, the wallcoverings manufacturer, has signed a licensing agreement with Benenon to produce a range of wallenverings for the UK market. The agreement is worth up so £10 million in sales over a five-year period. Vymura already has licensing agreements with Walt Disney. Warner Brothers and Mattell. This latest agreement comes after the success of the Ports of Call wallcoverings, designed for Vymura by Jeff Banks, and the Royal Doulton designs, launched last year, the company said. Vymura shares rose to 117-p from a 12-month low of 115-p yesterday.

### Reflec systems review

SHARES in Reflec dived from 31 bp to 12 bp after the AIMlisted company said it had appointed Arthur Andersen to review the finances and management systems. The findings will be communicated to the board in mid-January. The review is to determine whether Reflec needs additional finance to best exploit its products and to complete capitalinvestments. Reflec said it has a large number of new products with "exciting" prospects that are not ready for launch yet. It lost £454,000 in the year to February on sales of £337,000.

#### Acatos holds dividend

ACATOS & HUTCHESON, the edible oils and fats manufacturing group, suffered a fall in pre-tax profits to £5.8 million from £7.7 million in the year to September 28. Operating profits fell 8.2 per cent to £5.2 million, reflecting delays in the commissioning of upgraded refining capacity. The company said the delay would continue to affect its performance in the first half. Earnings fell to 9.5p a share from 14.6p. The final dividend is held at 6.5p a share, making a total of 10.5p, compared with 10p.

#### Wilshaw raises £22.5m

WILSHAW is raising £22.5 million through the sale of its distribution division to Tractiv, a newly formed company, is was announced yesterday. In the year to March 31, the division being sold earned an operating profit of £3.5 million on sales of £26.4 million. The division's net assets were £11.8 million at the end of the year. Wilshaw will use £6 million to repay its bank borrowings, with the remainder earmarked for acquisitions to expand the powder metals division. Wilshaw shares rose 2p to 39% p yesterday.

### Firth Rixson expands

FIRTH RIXSON, the specialist engineer, has bought Barworth Flockton and Moss & Gamble Brothers from Barworth Holdings for £12 million. The amount was paid in cash and included £2 million for the shares and £10 million for repayment of inter-company and bank debts. Barworth Flockton manufactures tool and special steels, while Moss & Gamble is an open die forger. Firth Rixson said: "Both companies will fit well within the FR group enabling a wider range of products to be offered to our customers and other synergies to be achieved."

#### Airports lift revenue

EUROPEAN aiports lifted revenues 8.1 per cent to about £8.67 billion in 1996, according to Airports Council E8.67 billion in 1996, according to Airports Council International, an industry body. ACI also said the airports invested £2.4 billion in improving facilities and increasing capacity, a rise of 1.6 per cent over the previous year. Two ftalian airports, Rome Fiumicino and Milan Linate, showed the strongest revenue growth figures in 1996, up 21.1 per cent and 20.8 per cent respectively. Figures for 1997 are not yet available. Figures for 1997 are not yet available.

## Sears' company doctor close to completing BSC sale



David James has cut £40 million of losses by selling three businesses in three weeks

DAVID JAMES, the company doctor brought in by Sears to sort out its British Shoe Corporation (BSC) subsidiary, said vesterday he was close to completing the sale of the operation after receiving [6 million for its Shoe City business.

Bretano, the Belgian shoe retailer, is buying the Shoe City name and 44 of its out-of-town stores. Sears will retain one store and close another 39. Around 650 people will lose their jobs, though Mr lames said the structure of the deal meant that as many as 1,250 jobs would be saved.

Mr James has now sold three BSC businesses in three weeks - curting £40 million from the annual losses of the troubled operation that he had hoped to sell in one lot. It is now expected that the Cable & Co

chain of 24 upmarket shoe shops will be

By Jason Nisse sold in January for around £10 million. This is the only profitable business within

"A cynic might say that Cable has benefited because it has had the fewest number of bright ideas applied to it." said

The company doctor is currently working on a deal to save a large part of BSC's distribution centre at Braunstone, near Leicester, by transferring part of the distribution work for the rest of the Sears group to the centre. This move may save as many as 180 jobs.

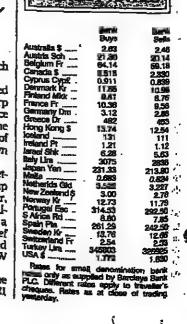
When Mr James, whose previous tasks have included the rescues of Danair and Eagle Trust, took over at BSC, Sears provided £150 million to cover the closure of its shoe operations, which once sold a quarter of all shoes in the UK. Mr James

said that the costs would be pretty much in line with this amount.

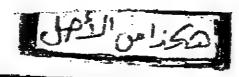
The Shoe City deal had to be completed in a matter of days after a sudden sharp movement in Bretano's share price brought pressure for a statement on the Brussels stock exchange. Bretano is one of Europe's must successful out-of-town shoe retailers.

Earlier this month Mr James completed the sale of the Dolcis chain to a group made up of Alexon, the fashion retailer, and Electra Fleming, the venture capitalists. Last week he sold Shoe Express to a team led by Philip Green, the former chief executive of Amber Day, the fashion and discount retailer now renamed WEW

Sears states rose to to 50½p on the



al firms i



where growth is slowing.

Ellwood realises this and must

be wondering where the growth

is going to come from at Lloyds.

the exception of Royal Bank of

Scotland - have been about as well received in that market as

General Cornwallis in 1776.

Europe is tempting - the competition is tough. It would not be

beyond those clever clogs on Lombard Street to make a con-

Like Goldman Sachs, Ellwood

might consider that the blood-

bath in the Far East has gone quite far enough. Goldman is considering mopping up prop-erty loans by Japanese banks—

buying them at a fraction of their

face value. Lloyds might take the

tra-cyclical move.

hen Lloyds TSB was looking at its portfolio of factoring companies

- and deciding that maybe owning three was a little excessive it was obvious which one was to go. Sir Brian Pitman has spent the past decade paring back the Lloyds worldwide network and

concentrating on dominating the

British high street. A company

called International Factors was

clearly not going to fit in with Sir

Brian's vision. Booking a £160 million profit on a business that Alex Lawrie, the Lloyds main

factoring operation, will now attack with gusto, sounds like

But this sale could also in-

dicate a seachange in strategy for the bank. Peter Ellwood, the old Barclaycard boss, became chief

executive earlier this year, as Sir

Brian moved to chairman. Not

suprisingly, Ellwood has taken

some time to start stamping his personality on the bank that Sir Brian built. Like his chairman,

Ellwood is keen to dominate the

high street, developing a seg-mented brand approach that uses the Lloyds, TSB, Chelten-

ham & Gloucester and Lloyds.

Abbey Life brands to attack the

customer from all angles.
But whereas Sir Brian's concept of shrinking abroad and getting out of investment bank-

ing enabled Lloyds to avoid the

problems that plagued other high street banks, it has also left

the group too exposed to an overbanked British high street

sensible business practice.

SUSMESS ROUNDUP Call in £7.4m over by LMH

ill and gas merger

voids Oftel action

ara-Benetton deal

" Systems review

(2°C)

. 5 %

+ 1

is holds dividend

Marie Edice, £22.5m

Rocan expands

.... We revenue PLANS by the Government to impose a "windfall tax" on professional partnerships could push thousands of smaller firms into bankrupt-

cy, it was claimed yesterday. The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) said withdrawing the "cash basis" of financial reporting was "unfair and unjust" and constituted an assault on all Coopers & Lybrand esti-

DIRECTORS and staff of

ICI Australia is to buy the

explosives business of its for-mer parent in Britain for A\$570 million (£229 million). The deal will make [CI Aus-

tralia the world's largest sup-

plier of explosives, with a market share of 20 per cent.

ICI has now made £1.5

billion of disposals since the

f4.7 billion purchase of Unilever's special chemicals

business last summer. The latest deal, described by ICI

Australia as a "competitive auction process", includes ex-

plosives operations in Canada, Latin America and Europe

as well as the American distri-

In Britain, ICI said the

taxation committee.

ment on a cash basis.

Ionica staff buy 'low shares' By RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR share value in November

after a warning that it was lonica, the beleaguered telesuffering from software de-lays and resulting capacity communications group, have been buying up shares in the problems. The shares have company because they believe dipped as low as 572p but the current price is too low. have since been climbing.

Michael Biden, the former The share price of Ionica.

which specialises in telecomsenior executive at BT who munications for the residenbecame Ionica's chief operattial market using radio, reached a 421p high after its ing officer last month, bought - together with his wife - a flotation this year. The comtotal of 68,257 shares in Ionica pany lost 40 per cent of its

84p. John Edwards, Ionica's finance director, has bought 22,500 shares, also at 84p, taking his stake to 34,807 shares. Individual employees have also bought shares, the

total coming to over 250,000. Colin Caldwell, company secretary, said yesterday: "The employees think the market has gone completely mad and they are filling their boots." The shares rose lip to 98 2 p.

### £21m bus takeover

The company is concerned

lower gold price on mining

and exploration activity, Mr

Weickhardt said. The ac-

quired operations mainly sup-

Cost savings will be generated from economies of scale

and synergies between opera-

Peter Clinch, the former ICI

Australia executive who has

been managing the global explosives business of ICI, will head the expanded ICI Austra-

lia explosives business. The

acquisition is due to be com-

ICI shares rose up to 923p.

pleted early next year.

ply coal mines.

By OUR CITY STAFF

HENLYS, the UK bus and

Canadian coach builder, is buying Nova Bus Corporation, the biggest manufacturer of city buses in Canada and the US. Based in Montreal, Nova Bus has a 30 per cent share of its market, with

made a pre-tax loss of £2.1 million on sales of £193 million in 1996, but a change in product at Montreal led to a pre-tax profit of £3.9 million on sales of £147.7 million in the

its motor dealerships.



Ellwood's international factor

عكذام اللإمل

The answer may be to reverse Sir Brian's incredible shrinking bank strategy. Lloyds has already signalled that it is keen on expanding further in Latin America, in general, and Brazil, in particular. But this is less of an about turn than one might think same attitude to banks. But if Eliwood goes shopping he does not have to look far. Standard about turn than one might think, as Lloyds never really severed the connections it built up in Brazil through the Bank of London and South America. Chartered shares have fallen by more than a third since the Far East turmoil started. It is now valued at a mere £6.5 billion. If Goldman Sachs is right and Japan has bottomed, this should Ellwood may be prepared to take Lloyds into uncharted waters.
The US is probably out of the question. British banks — with stabilise the region. Buying Stan-dard Chartered at these levels could be a strategic move by Ellwood of which Sir Brian

> Scrooge earns wrath of professions

Pitman would be proud.

The Treasury's pre-Christmas role as Scrooge has culminated in another fur-tive assault on the middle classes. Ministers probably imagine that partners in big accountancy and law firms, who are being targeted, drive cars that cost more than the lifetime savings limit in an ISA. In reality, as the Associ-

ation of Chartered Certified Accountants quickly claimed "it could lead thousands of firms into bankruptcy".
Professional firms, so persua-

sive in such matters, convinced the Inland Revenue years ago that they should be taxed on cash received rather than monies they are owed or estimated profits on work in progress. As long as customers eventually pay, part-ners are taxed, but much later. Now this concession is to be withdrawn, producing a one-off windfall to the Treasury that could be nearly £200 million. In future, tax will have to be paid on earnings defined by the use of accounting standards.

Public sympathy for Big Six accountants, top commercial law firms and City surveyors may be limited. But most of these do not pay tax on a crude cash basis. Many account tax on bills sent out and some on a modifed accounting basis. And you will not be shocked to hear that tax

partners are already working productively vesterday on loop-holes and palliative schemes. The damage will be done at the other end of the professional

ladder. Smaller professional firms often have much smaller profit margins and find it hard to collect bills. So the one-off hit could be several times annual profits tax, straining already strained finances. Solicitors and barristers will

not react kindly to the Lord Chancellor's plan to replace legal aid with contingency fees, if they are taxed on all the work they do in advance. Accountants working in corporate finance also work on a contingency basis, in which all or most of their fees depend on success in a deal. The measure could create

havoc well beyond professionals, Unless micro business is excluded, many thousands of unincorporated firms will be forced to have more complex and expensive accounting systems, run by outside accountants, to work out their tax in the way the Revenue now wants to make compulsory. You can, at least, rely on the

professional sections of the middle classes not to take a windfall tax lying down. You can also predict who will ultimately pay. Expect to be billed for that solicitor's letter before it has been printed off the word processor.

#### Sears needs to buck the trend

s the tide turning at that great destroyer of share-holder value — Sears? After two years of the sort of performance which would shame anyone but Laura Ashley, the latest disposal, that of Shoe City, might indicate that Sears is close to bottoming out. This should co-incide with the last of the British Shoe Corporation, the albatross around Sears' neck.

But it may have more to do with the way BSC was dis-mantled -- professionally and by someone who knew what he was doing. David James has spent £150 million to eliminate £40 million of losses — a price earnings ratio of 3.75 if you want to look at it that way. In the

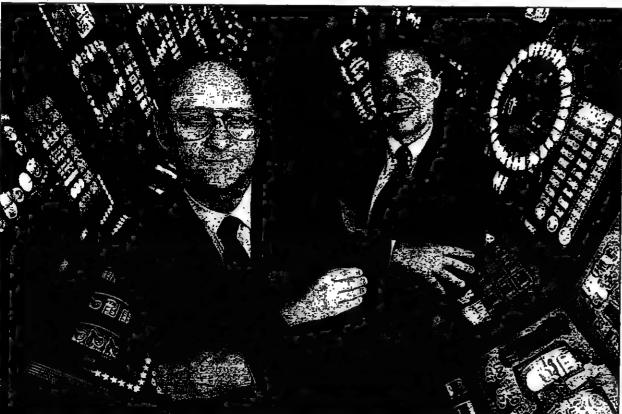
meantime Sears' shares have lost nearly half their value.

Like Stalin's scorched earth policy during the Second World War, the Sears retreat from Leicester has been painful but successful. However, a great deal depends on how Sears builds from its new parrow hase of from its new narrow base of Selfridges and a couple of fash-ion chains. The most important factor will be the growth of Selfridges, for which a large expansion of the Oxford Street store and a couple of out-of-town stores is planned.

The nearest equivalent of Selfridges, Harvey Nichols, has hardly been sparkling recently. The next nearest performer, House of Fraser, has been downright dreaful, though it might be on a recovery path. Sears needs to show it can buck the trend. But on past performance this might manifest itself as "anything you can do, I can do worse".

#### Gift wrapped

LOOKING for a last-minute gift for your husband or wife? Try some bombed-out shares in your own company. Directors of Ionica, the radio-based phone service whose shares plunged from a 390p launch to a 582p low on software problems, bought 90,000 at 84p, as part of a programme in which employees vacuumed up 250,000. Hours later, they show a 10 per cent profit. But remember, shares are not just for Christmas.



Game on: Roy Howell, who will remain as managing director of Maygay, left, and Rupert Lyle, of 3i, yesterday

ICI Australia pays £229m

to top explosives league

### European Leisure | Jacques Vert set sells gaming arm to resume dealing

By DOMINIC WALSH

EUROPEAN LEISURE, the duce a good machine which sports bars and discotheques group, is to sell its Maygay amusement machines business for £16.5 million to a group of institutional investors led by 3i, the venture capital group, and existing

Maygay, the UK's second largest manufacturer of gaming machines, achieved record results in the year to June 30, raising operating profits 70 per cent to £4.1 million, on turnover of £29 million, aithough this year's results are not expected to be

Patrick Hooper, finance director of European Leisure, said it was this volatility that had persuaded the group to sell Maygay. He added: "In this business, you're only as good as the last machine you've produced. If you prothe big brewers want, you have a period of success, but if you don't then things aren't so good." He said Maygay's market share had fluctuated between 16 and 26 per cent from one year to the next.

Mr Hooper said the pro-ceeds from the sale, which is conditional on shareholder approval, would be invested in expanding the group's sports bars and discotheques businesses, where growth was more consistent. European Leisure will book a profit of about £10 million on the deal.

The institutional investors have put up total funding of £20.5 million, with 3i's Birmingham office providing about £10 million. Roy Howell, whose father founded the business in 1968, will continue as managing director of Maygay.

By Dominic Walsh

SHARE-DEALING Jacques Vert, the troubled women's wear retailer, looks set to be reactivated within weeks after yesterday's announcement of a wide-ranging reorganisation and the extension of its banking facilities.

The group, whose shares were suspended at 214p last month in the wake of its lifth profit warning in two years, is to close the Jacques Vert wholesale business in a bid to cut costs and streamline operations. It is also selling its Grace Collection, a range aimed at a younger market, for £1.6 million to a manage-

ment buy-in team. Bill Reid, chairman, said the group had withdrawn from all out eight of its 32 House of Fraser outlets, but had agreed 10 new concessions within other retailers and further sites were under discussion.

His comments came as he unveiled losses before exceptional items, interest and tax more than doubled to £6.8 million in the 53 weeks ended May 3. Exceptional costs connected with the restructuring took pre-tax losses to £9.5 million compared to a loss last time of £5 million.

Earlier in the year its manufacturing plant in Washington, Tyne & Wear, was closed. The shares were suspended after it became apparent the company was likely to breach its banking facility limit. Midland Bank has increased its overdraft facility from E7.5 million to £8 million, while Littlewoods, which acquired a 29.9 per cent stake in Jacques Vert in January, has agreed a short-term loan of £500,000 until the end of April.

Tempus, page 22

## From Poll position to Chequers flag

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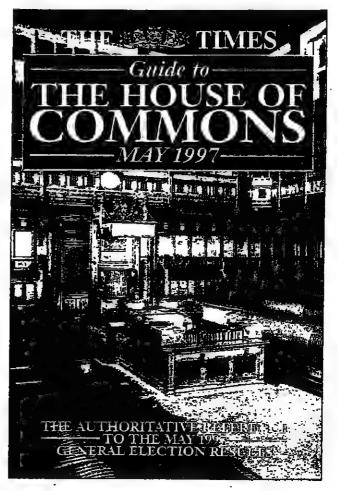
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(delete where necessary)

### Accountants fear tax will push Henlys in small firms into bankruptcy

By Jon Ashworth

disposal of its explosives busi-

ness would give rise to a pre-tax exceptional gain of £85

million. ICI's European explo-

sives operations are based in

Wigan, Greater Manchester, and employ 2,700 in Europe.

ICI expects the deal to help

earnings and intends to use

the proceeds to reduce group

borrowings. The explosives

arm had estimated sales of

US\$500 million (£299 million)

this year and trading profit of \$20 million (\$3 million), on net

after becoming an indepen-

dent company this year when

ICI sold its majority 62.4 per

ICI Australia is to be re-

assets of \$295 million.

mates that a one-off "catchingup charge" imposed on part-nerships could net up to £200 million for the Treasury. The Government insists the move is about "levelling the playing field" and removing unfair tax

ACCA said the proposed changes ran contrary to everything that has been said about lightening the burden on small businesses. Mavis Sargent, chairman of ACCA's hard hit.

many businesses could face bankruptcy. Some firms would experience a double hit, because not only would the earnings basis be changed. but work in progress would no longer be eligible for treat-

cent stake. ICI Australia ex-

pects big cost savings. Philip Weickhardt, managing direc-

tor, said the savings would run to tens of millions of

He expected the newly ex-

panded explosives business to

generate double-digit profit

returns before interest and

tax. The business generated a

return of 19 per cent in the year

to September 30, though oper-

ations in Canada, Latin Amer-

ica and Europe, and the distribution business in the

United States, generate a

The newly-acquired operation is less exposed to to gold

mining than ICI Australia's

much lower return.

Australian dollars.

Sue Chisman, a partner in group at KPMG, said small firms would be particularly

coach builder, and Volvo, the Swedish auto manufacturer, are expanding their joint operations in North America with a £21 million takeover. Prevost, their jointly-owned

factories in Montreal, New Mexico and New York State employing 1,700 people.
In 1996 it sold 1,380 buses. It

10 months to October 31. Prevost was bought by

Volvo and Henlys in 1995. Earlier this year Henlys, which has UK factories in Scarborough, where it makes Plaxton coaches, and Wigan, where its Northern Counties subsidiary makes buses, sold Cł

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STOCK MARKET



## Blue Circle wins prized place in top 100 stocks

The Control of the Co

between potential blue chips for the honoured place available in the exclusive top 100 club was a short-lived affair from which only one winner could have emerged.

It was made possible by the impromptu departure of Mercury Asset Management on Monday, after probably the shortest elevation to the top rank on record and coming just hours before Merrill Lynch's £3.1 billion bid for MAM went unconditional.

Last night it emerged that the much-prized place had gone to Blue Circle Industries, up 17p at 352p, which had been among those relegated on Monday, along with RMC Group, 512p better at 852p, and TI Group, 1512p stronger at 467p, after the quarterly shake-up. They had made way for MAM. British Energy, down 10p at 417p, and Amvescap. 2p firmer at 487p.

Yesterday's aspirants were joined by fresh blood in the shape of Southern Electric. up 812p at 500p, and Compass Group. 5p lighter at 724p. At least three of the companies, Blue Circle, Compass and Southern, boast price tags of £2.8 billion, or more.

Share prices generally closed just below their best levels of the day with the FTSE 100 index ending 31.6 up at 5,049.8. It was a solid performance, given the heavy overnight losses in Seoul and the opening fails on Wall Street.

The equity market was underpinned by a positive performance from the bond market which, in turn, drew strength from the latest trade figures showing the problems being faced by exporters because of the strong pound.

Brokers hope it will be enough to convince the Bank of England that another rise in interest rates will not be needed. There have been five rate rises since May.

Lloyds TSB stood out with a jump of 25p at 761p after the group disposed of its International Factors to Bank of New York in the US. The deal is expected to lead to a pre-tax profit gain of £160 million.

Fears of increased competinursing a fall of  $6^{1}$  ap at  $612^{1}$  ap. The group was left pondering news of rival Coca-Cola's ac quisition of Orangina, Brokers say it could out increased pressure on its own Sunkist



Daniel Thorn, left, and Gary Conway, holders of almost 60 per cent of newcomer Optoplast, which gained 14p

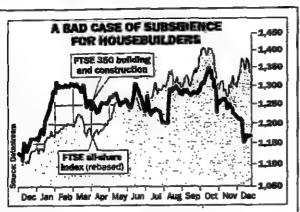
increasingly bearish view of events at Cadbury. Only last week the company's own bro-ker downgraded its profit forecast for 1997, from £580 million to E570 million, after a

series of rather dull City Vodafone, the mobile phone operator, was another firm market, adding 1212p to

45012p after increasing its

stake in Français du Radio telephone, from 16.1 per cent to 20 per cent.

The terms from Loyalty Management Holdings boosted First Call 33 p to 10p. LMH, which created the Air Miles promotion scheme for British Airways, is offering 10 ap, valuing the ticket agency at £7.35 million. It wants the siness in order to set up a



FIVE rate rises since May have had the desired effect and taken their toll of the housing market.

In its latest survey, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors confirmed that there had indeed been a considerable słowdown in house price rises year-onyear. The number of surveyors reporting price rises had more than halved on a

year previous. London and the South worst affected with rises in London dropping below 10 per cent, compared with gains of almost 40 per cent

other areas of the

RICS warned that a further decline may be inevitable, with the full impact of those rate rises still to be felt as many fixed rate home loans are not up for renewal until next month.

The housebuilders refuetantly took the news on board with share prices coming falling in a rising market. There were losses recorded in Barratt Devel-230p. John Laing 'A' 3p to 330 p. Persimmon 22p to 185p, and George Wimpey

loyalty points programme of-fering discounted tickets for

Any fears for the future that directors of Ionica may have were being carefully hidden yesterday as two of them went on a spending spree, splashing out £76,235 by snapping up a total of 90,757 shares.

Michael Biden, chief operat ing officer, has bought 68.257 shares at 84p, while John Edwards, finance director. has bought 22,500. Just five months ago lonica was floated at 390p, but plunged after interim results showed pre-tax losses growing at the relecoms group to £77 million.

First-time dealings in Optoplast, makers of optical accessories, got off to a confi-dent start after a placing by Williams de Broe, the broker, at 128p. The price started life at 1371 ap before closing at its best of the day with a rise of 14p at 142p. Brian Conway and Dan-Thorn, joint chief executives, hold almost 60 per cent of the company between them.

Scotia Holdings continued lose ground after the ction of its Tarabetic drug for the treatment of diabetic neuropathy by the Medicines Control Agency. The price settled a further 5p lower at 260p, making a two-day loss of Biocompatibles dropped another 30p to 42712p in the wake of this week's profits warning.

A sharp drop in the tin price on the London Metal Ex-change left a dent in Petaling

Tin, down 10p at 30p.

☐ GILT-EDGED: The latest trade figures provided an unexpected boost to the bond market, enabling it to outperform rival European markets.

Britain's exporters are clearly suffering from the strong pound. It is hoped this may be enough to deter Eddie George Governor of the Bank of England, from raising rates yet again.

In the future pit, the March series of the long gilt was unchanged at £1217 to in mod-

Among conventional issues Treasury 8 per cent 2021 closed £1932 better at £122732, While Treasury 7 per cent 2002 finished £1s firmer at £102332. ☐ NEW YORK: Stocks were mixed at midday, holding panicky self-off in South Ko-rea. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 12.95 at

LONGON FINANCIAL FITURES

New York (midday): Dow lones 7806.36 (-12.95) S&P Composite 952.18 (-1.52)	
Tolkya: Nikhei Average clased	Fag end
Hong Kong. Hang Seng 10369.10 (+195.63)	HAVING chosen to expose its insurance
Amsterdam: 876.75 (-8.07).	business to the bracing wind of the stock market BAT could hardly complain when the
Sydney: 2588,9 (+55.5)	same market rerated its merger partner, Zurich, while downgrading BAT. Since the
Frankfurt: DAX 4(2).79 (-79.77)	deal was first mooted early in October, Zurich shares have gained more than 12 per cent while BAT has slipped back two points,
Singapore: 153651 (+5.34)	enough reason to reset the merger terms.  Some investors complain that a tie-up with
Brussels General 14081.74 (-03.89)	Zorich makes no sense as Zurich has no UK.
Paris CAC-10 2858.13 (-11.60)	gained. But Zurich's deal is the only offer on the table, and BAT investors get a stake in a
Zurich: 1236.90 (-6.10)	vastly superior operation, with more embed- ded value per share and the clout to do more
London	denia.
FT 30	More worrying are concerns over the long-
FTSE 100 5049.8 (+31.6)	hoped-for rerating of BAT's soon-to-be liberat-
FTSE 250 470&3 (+1.5)	
FTSE Eurotrack 100 2639.10 (+2.64)	
FLOS DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY O	To a series of the control of the control True

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Abbey Nat Obin II with a sluggish increase of BCO Techno only 5 per cent. Bovis Homes Energis (290) Fing Geared Units Gooch & Housego Market Link Publ Range Cooker Crupity 64 RAMOTOACK Vehicles

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RISES:		
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Blue Circle	3320	+17p)
Rentold Intt	290p (4	11 <sup>1</sup> 40}
Royalbius	651p (+	-23 <sup>4</sup> p)-
Mersey Docks Lloyde TSB		
FALLS:		
Biocomps Intl	427'sp	(-30p)

625p (-15p) 565p (-12p) 485p (-10p) Closing Prices Page 24

Fag end for BAT ed tobacco arm. On the revised terms, BAT AVING chosen to expose its insurance financial services is worth 43:57 of the £13.6 usiness to the bracing wind of the stock billion market value of Zurich, or £10.6 narket. BAT could hardly complain when the billion. At the current BAT share price, that ome market rerated its merger pariner, leaves the tobacco business valued at a mere urich, while downgrading BAT. Since the five times operating profits compared with eal was first mooted early in October, Zurich multiples of eight times for rivals such as nares have gained more than 12 per cent Philip Morris and Gallaher. hile BAT has slipped back two points, There are a multitude of excuses for the Some investors complain that a tie-up with nrich makes no sense as Zurich has no UK perations, therefore no cost savings to be

discount. US tobacco litigation being the main depressing factor, but Philip Morris has not been so punished. Yet it seems unlikely that BAT shares will rebound when the demerger is completed. If there is to be a rerating, it e table, and BAT investors get a stake in a could take another year and in the meantime. BAT could be tempted to bid for a UK firm, id value per share and the clout to do more such as Imperial or Gallaher, and complete its portfolio. BAT is undervalued but could remain so for some time yet.

blue chips. Fleeing asset

deflation in Asia, US inves-

tors need a home for their

foreign investment alloca-

tion. Europe is an obvious

Mid-cap stocks

ONE puzzle facing investors next year will be whether the FTSE 100 index blue chips continue to outperform mid and small capitalisation stocks. The superb perfor-mance of financial, pharmacentical and oil stocks caused the FTSE 100 to rise more than 18 per cent over the past year but more cyclical mid-dle-ranking industrial shares left the mid-cap index

The FTSE 100 index decoupled from the mid-250 stocks in the back end of last year and in doing so was a late follower of trends in op 50 stocks in New York and Tokyo. Large liquid stocks, such as Lloyds TSB: and Zeneca, attract international funds in the way that

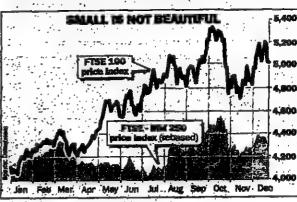
alternative and the UK offers pharmaceuticals and adoptthe most liquid market in ed agressive positions in which to invest. The chances industrials to their cost. The question is whether are US funds will continue to the weight of international buy the FTSE 100 index and the mid-caps will have to work hard to catch up. continue to flow into UK SMALL IS NOT BEAUTIFUL

ers cannot. True to the value-

driven principles of certain

fund managers, UK pension

weight in financials and



#### Reckitt & Colman ·

RECKITT & Colman is buying four American brands for about ten times their profits, a deal that looks good value, but a closer examination gives some clues as to why they are chean.

For a start, only two of the four brands meet Reckitt's criterion that acquisitions have leading or number two market shares. One of the brands. Glass Plus, has a market share of just 10 per cent compared with the 55 per cent share of the market leader. Only one of the brands, Spray in Wash, already provides the sort of margins Reckitt needs. Reckitt, whose stable al-

Lemsip, argues that yester-التعدا There is also a question

ready boasts Harpic and

mark over its decision to

spend in North America where, as in Europe, growth is less than 2 per cent. As Reckitt has set itself a sales growth target of 5-6 per cent, it will need to substantially outperform. With competition from Procter & Gamble and S.C. Johnson, which is selling the four brands, the

Reckitt might do better ploughing its money into emerging markets, although the general malaise affecting companies with an Asian presence has affected Reckitt's own shares. They have slowed after rising from less than 700p at the beginning of the year. Yesterday's close of 908p, up, 4p, on the day is about right for the time being.

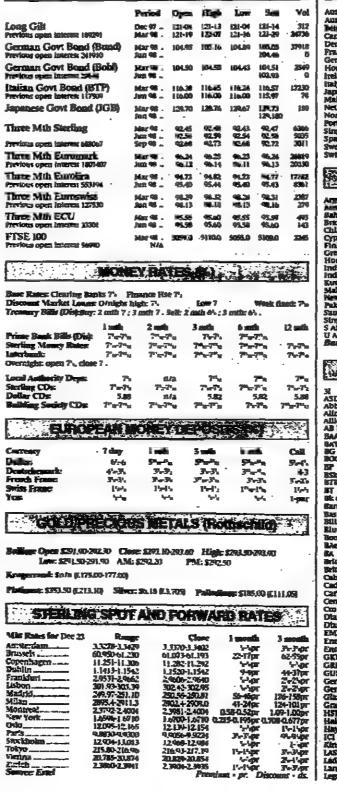
HAYING decided its course, Shell is not easily deterred. gotiating the acquisition of Hanwine Energy, a Korean oil refiner whose parenthas been

cial turmoil. Unlike some American rivals which have abandoned refining - Unocal recently sold its operations to Tosco - Shell wants to consolidate its position in this troubled industry by securing economies of scale.

That means obtaining leading market shares or divestng. Yesterday, the US competition authorities gave the green light to a joint venture with Texaco and Saudi Aramco, merging their downstream operations. In Korea, the company has an opportunity to secure a position in a huge market with little foreign competition. Vertical integration unfashionable but it is at the core of Shell's strategy. hence its investment of several hundred million dollars in a power station joint venture with Bechtel. And it is right to do so; dealing in a volatile commodity, it cannot afford to and give away margin. It is a strategy worth backing.

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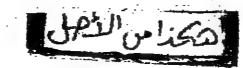
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AND SEALING

The fire sale of Asia has begun. Goldman Sachs is begun. Goldman Sachs is today reported to be preparing to spend \$4 billion (£2.4 billion) on buying up bundles of asset-backed loans from stricken Japanese banks, the equivalent of one eighth of all Japan's had loans. Other American investment banks, who learnt the art of buying and repackaging bad loans during the Latin American debt crisis of the 1980s, will surely follow. These forays are the very early signs of an American take-over of Asia's financial and banking sectors, aided and abetted by

the International Monetary Fund It is too easy to accuse the IMF of incompetence in its handling of the Asian crisis. Its critics charge that the IMFs imposition of a monetary squeeze on Asian economies is inappropriate for what is essentially a crisis of bad debt. High interest rates virtually en-sure that a large proportion of Asia's financial institutions will

## How West cages Asian tigers in IMF trap

go to the wall, they wall. Surely the IMF must see that identikit austerity packages imposed on the fiscally profligate in the developing world are not appropriate for Asia? These charges are perfectly valid but miss the point. Even the IMF could not get its diagnosis and treatment this badly wrong by mistake. It is hard to avoid the conclusion that its "bail-out" of Asia amounts to a deliberate policy of laying the region open to

takeover by foreign interests. The IMF knows very well that the American banking system was saved and nursed back to health after the 1987 stock market crash because the US Federal Reserve pumped masses of liquidity into the economy and kept interest rates low for a long time. It is no

being imposed on Asia. At the same time as the IMF is ensuring a brutal shake-out of Asian financial institutions, it is demanding that Asian governments open their financial markets to foreign investment at their point of maximum vulnerability and when assets are cheapest. Lest anyone dismiss this as a

silly conspiracy theory, just re-member the speech that Mickey Kantor, former US Commerce Secretary, made to the Confedera-tion of British Industry this mouth. He told his audience that the troubles of the "tiger" economies should be seized as a golden opportunity for the West to reassert its commercial interests. When countries seek help from the IMF, he said, America and



battering ram to gain advantage.
The pact that Asian governments have made with the IMF is positively Faustian. They get bil-tions of dollars in the short-term but lose control of their destinies. The "tigers" will emerge from the corrent crisis declawed and

BUSH

The IMF may genuinely believe

and South Korea will end up with a sound financial system much more quickly if their banks are by Goldman Sachs or Citicorp. But there is still something faintly obscene in the way that western commercial interests always appear to profit from other's misfortunes (and avoid paying for their own mistakes in the case of US banks who leant so wildly in Latin America).

What is happening to Asia is early reminiscent of what happened to East Germany when the Berlin Wall came down. An entirely inappropriate macroeconomic policy - monetary union between the deutschemark and the ostmark -- ensured that every East German firm was rendered

Treuhand was set up, took over East Germany's assets and sold them off cheap. East Germany was bought and sold in little more than two years. The price of agreeing to the hostile takeover. which came to be known as the second anschluss, was an influx of MacDonald's drive-ins and Volks-

wagen dealerships.

Perhaps the saddest group in East Berlin after unification was an association of entrepreneurs. Many of them had been imprisoned by the Communist regime for daring to embrace capitalism and, when the wall came down. they thought that their day had come. Many of them set up small businesses, only to find them-selves the takeover targets of west German companies. One entre-

preneur was literally driven out of that wanted to buy him out his

East Germany's roads became notorious for "road rage" incidents. There was an astonishing explosion in car crash statistics. explained largely by the fury of west German drivers of fast Mercedes and Audis at being held up by dawdling Trabants.

as country bumpkins by their rich similarly being written off by triumphalist voices in the West. development may be undergoing an unforgiving reassessment but the western model of capitalism is distastefully arrogant and sneering. The Asian economies may come to regret taking the IMFs

## Exports' puzzling resilience to strong pound may soon fade

Trade figures are at odds with corporate tales of woe. says Alasdair Murray

Tor Britain's exporters 1997 has been marked by the return of the though sterling is now off the peaks reached in August, the pound still hovers uncomfortably close to DM3 - around 20 per cent higher than when it began its surge in late 1996. While policymakers, includ-ing the Bank of England and the Chancellor, have paid lip service to the damage the pound can wreak on British manufacturing, they appear at a loss to explain why it has reached such heights when the standard estimates of fair value suggest sterling should only be around DM2.50.

Reports of the harm done to the export sector have been legion in recent months. UK steel firms recently gave warn-ing that they have lost around El billion in orders in the past 15 months. British Steel, itself, about 45 per cent and is expecting to shed around 2,000 jobs to make up lost ground. Companies ranging catalogued sterling travails. from ICI to Diageo have Studies of the export sector, such as the CBI industrial trends survey; have shown order books at their lowest

level for five years. However, for all the evidence of damage at corporate level, there has been little sign until recently of the pound prompting a marked deterio-ration in the official trade statistics. The monthly trade figures have consistently shown only a modest deficit. and export volumes have actually risen in 1997, in contrast to 1988, when the current account deficit ballooned to 6 per cent. Indeed, the official data has appeared so much at odds with other sources that some economists have called into question the accuracy of the statistics. The trade figures have been prome to revisions since shifting from using customs information to VAT returns, and Nick Vaughan, UK economist with Barclays Capital, believes that the most Examination of trade data



cant revision". He says: "All growth has been especially per cent drop in turnover this greater and more immediate ine other evidence is bad, so we can't see why export volumes are apparently still enjoying strong growth."

This discrepancy in data has led even the Bank of England to admit that it finds the relative strength of exports in the face of the strong pound "puzzling". In theory, a sharp increase in currency value should lead to what economists term the "J curve" effect - a brief improvement in the nation's trade balance as the country benefits from cheaper import prices, followed by a sharp deterioration as exports begin to struggle and importers grab an increasing share of the domestic market.

The Bank's analysis is that export volumes have been relatively protected so far because companies have responded to the high pound by shifting their markets to regions where its rise has been less pronounced. Sterling's climb has been concentrated against European currencies and has been much less marked against the US dollar and the myriad currencies that track the greenback - at around 7 per cent, compared with 20 per cent in Europe.

recent data is set for a "signifi- shows that export volume by. ICI, for example, expects a 7 trade growth has a much strong in the US and historically smaller markets such as the Opec countries, Latin America and Eastern Europe. In contrast, export volumes to

Germany have slipped. There is plenty of evidence at corporate level that even relatively small exporters are working hard to find new markets. The House of Darts is a darts manufacturer that

vear because of the strong pound. Chris Vallance, corporate treasurer, says that the shift markets "because our product is not an opportunistic

commodity".

The data itself, also indicates another flaw in the alter-native market thesis. Export volumes have also risen strongly in countries such as The Netherlands, Spain and exports 97 per cent of its The Netherlands, Spain and products. Eddie Norman, a Italy where the pound has hit

#### 6 We are not suffering ... we tried harder to find new orders ?

partner in the firm, says that it has worked hard at finding new markets, especially in South-East Asia while orders from Germany -- its market -- have declined. Mr Norman adds: "We are not suffering overall as a business because we have tried harder to find new orders, even in Europe, and increased our range of specialist products.\*

However, as the Bank admits, there are limitations to this thesis. Not all companies can shift their markets quicklevels as high as those against the German mark. The experience in these markets points to another possible explanation for the relative resilience of UK exports in the past year — global expansion in demand. The Bank of England estimates that domestic demand in the world's six largest economies has risen by 2.2 per

cent in 1997, compared with 1.8 per cent the previous year. Analysis by the economics team at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter suggests that world

impact on UK export growth than exchange rate movements. As a result, Britain has continued to experience export growth this year, although it is probably losing market share. in contrast, two years ago — when the pound was weak but so was global growth — the UK won a greater share of the export market. The currencysensitive UK machine-tool manufacturing sector, for instance, is predicting that the value of exports will rise marginally next year because of improved growth in Europe but will stay below 1996 levels. in short, the strong pound is prompting an export slow-down, rather than a slump, However, the Morgan Stan-

ley analysis also points to a second important reason for the absence of sharp deterioration in the trade figures - the time lag before a strong currency begins to bite. The Morgan Stanley assessment suggests that it takes six quarters for the full impact of the rise in the real exchange rate to show through, so the first quarter of 1998 could see a sharp widening in the trade balance.

There are some sound practical reasons for believing that

surge in the currency and an export slowdown. Many companies have a long lead time for export orders, which can appear in the trade data up to a year after a deal was struck Big companies are also able to seek some protection from currency hedging. ICI, for instance, has been able to restrict export damage by hedging the forward costs of orders. Exporters have also been able to withstand some of the pressure on sales by cutting their profit margins. After the 1992 devaluation, the UK export sector enjoyed a huge expansion in margins that has left a buffer in the past year.

Importers also seem bound by this time lag, and some may only now be enjoying the increase margins. Jon Culverhouse, managing director of Fantastic Fireworks, a London business relying heavily on imported products. says the company operates on a 12-month lead time to try to prevent being caught out by fluctuations in the pound. "We do not really expect to see the impact from the pound for

another 12 months," he says. However, most economists believe that the short term ploys that companies can use to guard against a rise in the pound are now unwinding and that a growing deficit is likely to emerg e in the next few months. The most recent trade data, has hinted at a

slowdown in export volumes. Import data is also pointing to a gradual deterioration in the deficit. Peter Warburton, UK economist with Robert Fleming Securities, estimates that the index of import volumes has jumped by nearly 19 per cent since early 1995 and that the visible trade deficit is set to climb from Ell billion this year to £21 billion next year - knocking around I per cent off growth in gross domestic product.

if global markets can still manage to achieve another healthy year of growth, in spite of the troubles in the Far East, Britain's export sector may still escape the worst impact of the strong pound. However, the evidence suggests that the real pain of sterling's surge may become apparent in the wider economy in 1998. The only solace for Britain's struggling exporters is that a serious widening of the deficit might just persuade the Bank of England later in the year to lower interest rates - at last easing the pressure

Morrison, head of marketing at KLP and a confident of the Spice Girls, responded with an idea loosely modelled on Coca-Cola's Centennial Park at the heart of the Olympic Games in Atlanta in 1996.

himself a reputation as a maverick in the marketing industry by staging a rock music and snowboarding event in Red Square, Moscow, for Allied Domecq, the drinks company. The event, to promote Ballantine's whisky, featured the rock band The Prodigy and the world's biggest

snowboarding ramp.
KLP suggested to Midland that it create the biggest temporary structure in the world, including an all-day family entertainment centre and a 6.000-sear auditorium, for rock bands, orchestras and comedians. The Midland would be the sole sponsor of the event, and tickets would be offered first to its customers via an enormous direct mail operation.

After much deliberation, the Midland, traditionally associated with pumping sponsorship money into struggling arts events, committed £1 million to

the project. Belinda Furneaux Harris, Midland's head of marketing, said: "We went to KLP and asked them for something which would appeal to 16 to 24 year olds and 25 to 50 year olds. We then had a vast amount of focus groups. At the end of that we found that there was nothing that filled our objectives, and that we wanted to do something different to the

copetition. What we were fascinated by were companies which had brought their brands to life. One of the great things about

business by a west German firm delivery trucks kept being shunted off the road by his white knight. Many members of his association committed suicide.

East Germans were dismissed cousins. The peoples of Asia are The Asian model of economic

### The bank that broke with tradition for publicity's sake

Chris Ayres on why the

Paul Morrison's idea was that it would create its own world — Mid-land."

Although Midland was en-

thusiastic about KLP's concept.

it was worried about moving

money away from needy arts organisations to stage a mass-market event. Its lears were

partly justified when the strate-

gy met with criticism from

sections of the traditional arts

Midland had sponsored the

Proms at the Royal Opera House in London for 25 years,

and had also recently ended a 23-year sponsorship deal with

the Birmingham Royal Ballet.

But the company felt that such deals were being constantly devalued by the increasingly

lavish campaigns launched by

Ms Furneaux Harris said:

"The changes in financial ser-

vices have been so phenomenal, we're not really competing

against other high street banks.

but other brands such as

Virgin, Tesco, Sainsbury and

huge jump for us; no one in the

sector had done anything like it

before," Rival banks looked on

went about creating the 18-day

festival. Not

even a soft drinks manu-

facturer had

embarked on

such a risky

marketing venture in the UK.

Instead, Lloyds

TBS had a £2

million rugby union deal, Na-

tionwide a £5.25

million football

league deal and

Royal & Sun Al-

its non-bank competitors.

Midland let the market men in

There are still some advertisers who think it's a great idea to get company directors to market their own products. One example is Debonair, whose London Underground campaign shows its finance director pleading with the airline's chairman to stop cutting prices. Then there are the television adverts for Prudential, whose chief executive, Sir Peter Davis, is featured strolling along a sunlit beach telling people that the future will be just fine — as long as

they buy one of his pensions. The Midland Bank, whose ground-breaking music festival at Battersea Power Station ended on Monday, has thankfully decided to take a different approach. They hold the increasingly fashionable view that traditional forms of promotion — such as billboard advertising and straightforward director endorsements -

are no longer effective. Over the next few months, the bank will decide whether or success. However, the Battersea event has already guaranteed the bank an enormous publicity coup for New Year's in amazement as Midland Day, when the Princess Diana

Concert of Hope, held at the festival on December 7. will be shown on Channel 4. The Midland decided to change tactics after it asked KLP, the marketing agency that created Virgin's V97 and Tennants' T in the Park, to think of a new advertising strategy. Paul

liance a £3 million yachting deal, Midland's Morrison: maverick structure, which took three weeks to construct, was the size of six five-a-side football pitches, and weighed 700 tons. Its design attracted the attention of technicians build-ing the Millennium Dome, who have compared notes with Mr Morrison, 30, earned

KLP's staging specialists. This week, the structure will be dismantled and kept in storage for future events. More than 170,000 are expected to have visited the building by the end of the festival.

In spite of the hype, the festival got off to a bad start when Battersea Dogs' Home accused Midland of being "grossly irresponsible". The charity objected to the fireworks display that launched the event and in the process sent many of its dogs into a

However, once the fireworks had settled, most of the signs were positive. Nearly all the shows sold out, and the family entertainment - which included TV cooks, a Tim Henman tennis clinic, and concerts including Boyzone, Paul Weller and a 600-strong gospel choir - were all warmly welcomed by the media. Not having to personally promote it, Keith Whitson, Midland's chief executive, was seen enjoying himself at the event with his son.

The event's promoters, who took most of the financial risk. had little problem attracting high profile acts. Mr Furneaux Harris said: "I would say it's been 80 per cent successful, We are all extremely proud with what we've achieved. People are realising that we actually created this, rather than just put our name on it."

So pleased is the bank that the venue for next year's event has already been decided.

## End of dust-up?

James Dyson and Amway, the American corporation, not because the story is so complicated that few can fathom it, but because any mention in the press seems to sur up fresh trouble. Dyson strikes me as a decent sort of chap, and he doesn't need it. But his company, which makes that super-vacuum cleaner, has just

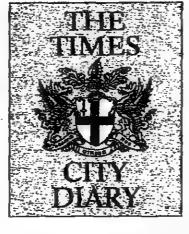


Dyson: nature abhors a vacuum

IT IS just possible that one of our taken out advertisements in The longest running corporate feuds . Times and another paper expressing might be heading for a close. I regret for statements made about hesitate to approach the matter of Amway several years ago. Dyson's regret for statements made about Amway several years ago. Dyson's quartel with the Americans dates from the arrival in the late 1980s of a machine they made that seemed rather too similar to his. A legal action was settled, and the courts never found any patent infringement. Yet two documents issued by Dyson suggested they had. Which meant another US court action, this time initiated by Amway, and yesterday's apology. The case continues but, Dyson's office tells me, "I think we are getting nearer. We're hopeful."

#### Branston pickle

BRANSTON & GOTHARD, "a rapidly expanding firm of stock-brokers", it says here, has spread its wings far afield. To Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, where the company is buying a former branch of Teather & Greenwood (Interestingly, the shop being bought claims to be the the country's first share shop, dating from 1964). But Branston & Gothard's geographical spread does not end there, it seems. Its leater-head mentions London, Frank-Dyson: nature abhors a vacuum furt, Zurich, Paris, Hong Kong, but lawyers obviously do not Tokyo, Sydney and New York.



Does the broker have branches in all those places, too? "I don't think they do. It's just a designer's device," says an insider sheepishly. Pretentious,

#### Spice racked

IN OCTOBER a British company called the Character Group was pretty chaffed at landing the exclusive contract to produce the official Spice Girls dolls. Chinese workshops were found, and express cargo planes chartered.

The only problem was they would not be ready until after Christmas. A. mistake. Virgin Megastores has now grown impatient at missing the dreaming of a White Christmas.

Christmas rush and has snanced up some "unofficial" Spice Girls dolls and is selling them in Oxford Street at £20 a set — a lifth of the planned official price. Unofficial, because while there is no mention of the fab five, the likenesses are pretty obvious. And the dolls are walking off the

So if enough imposters end up in Christmas stockings tonight, the gen-uine article might not be so popular when it finally arrives. Or worse still, the cult could be as dead as Power Rangers. Leaving the Character Group with £10 million of unwanted stock. That's showbiz.

☐ AS IF to prove once and for all that accountants are a cold-hearted lot, the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants has forwarded me the results of an extra question included in November's survey of its membership. They were asked which of a clutch of not terribly festive statements best expressed their profes-sional attitude towards Christmas.

A third thought it was good for the economy. 12 per cent believed "Christmas costs my business money because we lose productivity, which suggests a visit from a trio of ghosts soon might be good for their souls. A quarter could not put a cash value on the goodwill in the season of goodwill, but I reckon plenty are now trying to work out how to get it onto the balance sheet. Just 22 per cent were

#### Inns and outs

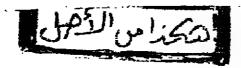
A SEASONAL sign of the times to send you on your way, and I can vouch for the accuracy of this one. The scene is a school nativity play. Three tiny tots are on stage. Lisps Joseph: "Can we come in, for we are far from home and very fired?" The inn-keeper points to Mary. "She can come in, but you can get lost. I wanted to be Joseph." Only he didn't say "get lost". Happy Christmas to you all.

MARTIN WALLER



"I'd be over the moon if we could just break even"

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MART Ron Cook Nigel Haves and Matcolm Storn, in this exceptionally interesting draws about from their

whey painting
Wyndham's Charne Cross Road
WC2 (0171-369 1736) Max roday, 3pm
Then Tup-Sal Born hists Wed, 3pm Sur and Sun Spm. Clased temorraw. CHICKS WITH FLICKS Japon camp) maisical Inbuild to the disco-

camp) misical model to the disco-divas of the 70s. Her impersonation of Karen Carporter is said to be flaviless iding is Head. Upper Street. N1 (0171-226 1916). Tur-Thur, 8pm, En and Sat, 79m and 99m Sun 430pm Until January 4 Closed tomonow &

GARLAND Geny Govers plays the budy denough singing, coincidiva in the one-woman show much pressed at this year's Edinburgh Fosinal New End | 27 New End Hamptiood 13W3 (0171-794 0022) Thurs Sal. Spin Until January 3 Glosed formance (a) AN IDEAL HUSBAND. Requir. of Peter Half's enjoyable products terminal of decreptors. Starting Martin. Share and Simon Ward, and hate O Mara as the scale troublemaker Gleigud, Shanestoury Are WI 1017 I-494 5065) Martoda, John Mor Sal 7 45pm mars Dos 30 and Jan 2, Soin and Sals, 4pm, Closed tomorrow A LETTER OF RESIGNATION Entered For and Clare Higgins play Harold Macmillan and Lady Dorothy in Hugh Whitemore's play about the effects on the Prolumo scandal Christopher

Morahar deed's Comedy Theatre Parton Street SWI (0171 569 1731) Mon-Sal, 7 45pm mals Wed Igm and Sal Jpm Closed IN THE MAGISTRATE ION Pichardson plays the much harassed here in a infully lumin rewall of Penero's fuce: Cast includes Graham, Crowden

From Middlemace, John Paddon Savey The Strand WC2 (0171-836

NEW RELEASES

CLOSE-UP: Improvenshed man poses as an Iranian like director Resmaling and humans drama, bused on truth, from 4bbas historiams (CA 2) n171-930 3647) Rio (0171-264 6677) Grands OF THE JUNGLE (U)
Tatanesque hard lands rumande in
America Passable rome based on the
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and Ledie Mann Director, Sam
Westman . GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE (U)

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Greenwich (0181-235-3006)
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Marble Arch (0181-315-4214)
Chelsee (0171-355-5996) Trocadeny
(0181-970-2016) UCI Whiteleys (0181-970-2016)

 HOME ALONE 3 (PG) Another Christmas, another kid left alone to fight intruders. Unapposing sequel with a different type (Alos D. Lind) and a different type (Alos D. Lind) and a ABC Baker Street (071-336 9772)
Odeon Cardien Town (0181-315 4216)
Ritzy (0171-737 2121; UCI Writisleys
Burgon Association Colleges

KIBS ME, GUIDO (15) Crowdpreating comedy about gays and straights in New York, With Nick Scotts, Anthony Barnie Departer Tony Vitale **Nicto** (0171-437 0757) Ritay (0171-737 2131)

◆ PRINCE VALIANT (PG) Spinle: Printing Valuation (PG) spines with Stephen Mover Nathenne Heigi and Journa Lumley Director Anthony Hickor Warmer (§ 19171-137 4343)

CURRENT - ALIEN RESURRECTION (16) Auton Restrict Medicine (18)
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Greenwich (0181-235-3005)
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IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (U) From Coops of Amount of Amount

#### THEATRE GUIDE

House full, returns only
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8888) Today 3pm only Then Mon-Sar, 7:30pm mars Wed and Sai. 3pm Closed tomorrow (5) STAVA'S SKOWENOW STA mer display of ingenious clowning, building to an amazing, tempesticous

Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (3171-928 7616| Today 3pm Dec 26 and 27, 7 45pm Dec 29-30 4pm and 7 45pm. Sai 7-45pm mat Sai, 4pm Unid January 3 STEPPING OUT Musical ver

☐ STEPPING OUT Musical version of Richard Hams is fir obly frusts and lynds by Denis king and Mary Stewart David, Julia McNende directs Liz. Robertson and her hopeful frodlers. Alberry St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-393 1730). Today 3pm. Then Mon-Sat. 8pm. mays Truir, 3pm and Sat. 4pm. Closed Immerrow. LONG RUNNERS

Blood Brothers Phoentx (0171-369 1723) ☐ The Complets
Works of William Endougness
(Abridgeof Criteron (1071-399 1737) ☐ Greene Cambridge (0171-494 5080) ☐ An Inspector Calls:
Gamc (0171-494 5085) ☐ Martin
(0171-696 1807) ☐ Martin
Guerre Prince Edward (0171-447
5-00) ☐ The Woman in Black
Fortune (0171-836 2238) 5400) The Woman in Black: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

#### CINEMA GUIDE



Pierce Brosnan as 007 in Tomorrow Never Dies

(0171-255 4225) Richmond (0181-332 0030) Screen/Hill & (0171-435 3356) Virgin Pulham Read (0171-37) 2016

ONE NIGHT STAND HAY Absorbers ONE NIGHT STAND (18) Absorbing study in infidelity and its alternatin Excellent portormances from Wealey Snapes Mastacas Kirsky Robert Downey Ir, and Fyle Mastacashan October Common Tome (0181-016 4255) Please & (0990 88990) Please & (0990 88990) UCI Whitelerys & (0990 88990) Virgin Trocadero & (0181-970 6015)

\* TOMORROW NEVER DIES : LIV • TOMORROW MEVER DIES 11.19

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an evil mode mogal (Janathan Price)
Ser page min's, but ingle spanise With
Michille Fach and Teil Hatcher
ABC Totherinan Court Bond (0171)
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10171-799 1720; Greenwich (0181298 3376). Norther Brit Connert (0181-235 3005; Notting Hill Coronet 19171-727 6705; Odeons: Camdet Town 19181-315 4255; Kensingtol

## Diddle-dum, diddle-dum diddle-dum-dum-dum

Lone Ranger's theme-tune? And what was recently voted. God knows by whom, the most popular piece of music ever written? According to Natural Theatre, creators of this likeable touring show, it was Rossini's William Tell overture. And I am not inclined to argue with them about that or, indeed, anything else, because their Great Helmsman is a gentleman

> William Tell Purcell Room

who gives the impression of brooking no nonsense, least of all from a reviewer.

I recall Ralph Oswick, the company's artistic director. getting into a fearful tizz with a critical colleague who refused to join him onstage when he was playing the lead in Henry VIII. Diary of a Serial Killer in Edinburgh. In fact, he denounced her quite rudely from the stage. So when his Rossini, paunchily ensconced below a shiny black wig. looked in my direction and publicly wondered if The Times was alive and breathing. I was quick to do the craven thing. I joined my fellow spectators in incanting bum, bum, bum" and other unseemly noises to the rhythms of W. Tell.

Actually, I was glad to do so. Oswick is a genuinely com-manding comic performer, a big, crumpled blend of Mr Blobby, Rumpole and, yes, the Henry who ploughed through a lot of wives. His Rossini is in 1863, five years before his

Hard to miss: Ralph Oswick takes aim at Jill Myers in Natural Theatre's comic retelling of the William Tell story For reasons unclear to me he death and long after his premature retirement. Enter a series of eccentric figures. among them a Monty Python Paganini. Why (the violinist dimly wonders) did Rossini

give up composing? What ensues is a mix, sometimes a muddle of goodhumoured invention and seasonal silliness. Rossini is timewarped into a present where his tunes have become Muzak and Mantovani-style rip-offs.

lands up in an airport, where he refuses the chance to join his mistress in Hawaii and opts for Switzerland instead. Cut to a rompish Alpine

village - gormless men in lederhosen slapping each other senseless, bashfully grinning girls, and Oswick himself as a frump called Heiga where a cartoon version of the Tell story is staged. The villain cal shrinkage without Oswick, is duly flouted when the all of John Abulaia's cast

selfsame Oswick, now playing Will as a half-blind hulk with long grey hair, lifts his trusty bow and aims at the apple on the head of his son. Nor does he miss, maybe because the fruit is a Golden Delicious measuring roughly three feet by three, and has a pop-out arrow in its sell-by date.

Though the company would suffer artistic as well as physi-

The feel-good family

But hold! I am ignoring the art. Clutching folders which

have bits of scripts and songs,

the four contrive to put togeth-

er a patchwork quilt of scenar-

ios, accompanied, where

applicable, by Olly Fox on the

piano. Like awkward contes-

tants from a literary quiz

show, the Sawalhas take to the

prove agreeably game and some can handle saxes and trumpets as well as give larky performances. By the close was wondering if Natural Theatre wasn't Britain's version of the late, great Charles Ludiam's Theatre of the Ridioulous; and, as any New Yorker knows, that company could spoof away like no other. - -

> BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

#### away from fame and fortune with Mike Scott's band the Waterboys. The two erstwhile musical partners have long since gone their separate, ways, but 1997 has been a

good year for both veterans. Scott produced an invigorating solo album of wholesome, down-to-earth rock'n'roll in Still Burning and Wallinger re-emerged in June with Egyptology, the first World Party album in four years.

Perfect -

bash

birthday

THE Mean Fiddler, North London's favourite beery,

good-time venue, first opened its doors in unfashionable

Harlesden back in 1932. Since

then its ebullient proprietor.

Vince Power, has built an

empire that has made his name synonymous with live

music in the capital. He now

owns a dozen select venius,

festivals in the land, and

recently expanded his opera-

tions to New York. Yet the bar

where it all started in the heart

of London's Irish community

remains his spiritual home

and Karl Wallinger's World

Party were the perfect band to

headline the final night of the

venue's month-long 15th anni-

Wallinger was still a year

POP

lean Fiddler, NW10

When the Fiddler opened

versary celebrations.

150

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EREAT BANTESM

A Spiller

runs several of the bigges

Although he was hardly recognisable with his shaven head, the musical mix was. more familiar as he swiftly reminded us why it is not only, the name that makes World Party the perfect act for these celebratory occasions. You never need a jukebox with Wallinger around: all your favourite bits of rock history. are perfectly echoed in his crafted but virile songs...

The band's tour earlier this year was a strangely diffident affair but there was no holding back here as they plunged. straight into It Is Time and Beautiful Dream, the two uptempo opening numbers from Egyptology which perfectly displayed Wallinger's talents for Beatlesque harmonies. Mostly playing lead guitar, he switched to the keyboard for, She's the One, a plaintive song over which the ghost of John Lennon loomed particus larly large. On the tougher grooves of Is it Too Late and Stones were the chief inspiration. Wallinger continued to mix his influences intelligently as Sweet Soul Dream was given a Gram Parsons country feel and Ship of Fools con tained guitar work that would do Eric Clapton proud.

Half birthday bash, half Christmas knees-up and all World Party, it was a night we should still be remembering when the venue's 25th anniversary rolls around. By then Vince Power will probably be ruling the globe.

> NIGEL WILLIAMSON

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## A laugh

THE TANGO LESSON (PG) A MY Chelses (0171-351 3742) Odeon Mezzenine & (0181-315 4215) Renair (0171-837 8402)

0181.315 4214: Leicester Square 0181.315 4215: Merbie Arch (0181-315 4216: Seden Cottonge (0181-315 4220: Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Servey (1181-315) (0171-325) 2772: UCL Whiteley (0171-325 5090) Fullham Road (0171-370 2636)

## a minute

CONCERT

Camerata/ Wright Manchester

THE only way to play Mo zart's Musical Joke is straight. Rather than impose their own hornists did on this occasion by going out for a drink during an overlong violin cadenza — the conductor and orchestra should treat the score with all apparent

Subtlety was not much in evidence anywhere in Simon Wright's concert with the Manchester Camerata, No. sooner had one thought how clever of them it was to end the programme with Haydu's Symphony No 6 in D Le Matin) — a piece not entirely innocent of the mannerisms featured in Mozart's parody - than one was listening to a

SCISSOR HAPPY

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"GREAT AND GLORIOUS" S "::

clumsy introduction to another parody of the same work (La Matilda). Left to itself, the audience in

the Royal Northern College of Music might just have recognised the tune that was being given the Haydn treatment. and appreciated Laurence Perkins's wit all the more. But if it takes so much explanation, it is better not done at all.

The other musical joke was that the advertised new work, Flute Concerto by Ivor McGregor, did not materialise. Considering how short the concert was without it even with two whole works we seem to have missed something very major, surely the longest score of its kind.

The Camerata's excellent principal flautist, John Barrow, played instead Malcolm Arnold's Flute Concerto, Op which as well as being one of the most brilliant of its kind is also one of the shortest. But we knew that already, just as we knew how awkward but how rewarding is the harp part in Debussy's Danse sacrée et danse profane, and how attractive Elgar's Serenade for Strings.

GERALD LARNER

#### Pearcas Dudy - Dailing Dangston - --Young Vic Studie

been skewered and shot at in Sinbad and the Eye of the Tiger, The Avengers and no lewer than two Bond films. His oldest daughter, Nadia Sawalha, is famous as grumpy Annie Palmer in EastEnders. His younger daughter. Julia Sawalha, is Saffy, the madly sensible daughter in Absolutely Fabulous. And his surrogate daughter. Janine Buckley, is learning the trade

T adim Sawalha has

seasons and pub theatres. So why do I feel slightly queasy watching these four talented, unstruggling actors, perched on high stools in the Young Vic Studio, immodestly celebrating the special chemis try of father and daughter relationships? Perhaps because all the family are colour-coded in bright shirts that don't match. Perhans because I'm a son and I feel excluded. Or perhaps because t feels like a gross sentimental

indulgence that for want of a

rocking chair, a Christmas

tree and a guitar would be

better suited to Val Doonican.

and recite segments that reflect the eternal familial conundrums from the prophets to the present day. Highlights include Nadim reading aloud Mr Bennet's problems with his five daughters in Pride and Prejudice with real, well, pride. Scott Fitzgerald lectures his daughter about education while Germaine Greer's Daddy We Hardly Know You is read by

Nadia. There is some adolescent hokum choreographed by the girls to My Heart Belongs to Daddy and some saucy bickering between Janine and Julia as Mercy and Charity in

an extract from Dickens's Martin Chuzzlewit.

Jamine Buckley looks positively twig-like beside her voluptuous sisters but she has by far the best voice in a show that is closer to musical revue than literary recital. I cannot honestly say, however, that the slight, bright pop songs add throughout. Even when the atmosphere

is forcibly darkened by a last half-hour that includes extracts from the death of Iphigenia ai Aulis and Julia and Nadia's fictional tales of abuse, the show feels far more dreary than dangerous. There is really no getting away from the fact that this is a sickly indulgence. What the Sawal has try to pass off as a celebration of fathers and daughters is really a celebra-

> **JAMES** CHRISTOPHER

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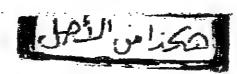
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## Festive dipsy la-la-la with the telly totties

hat film do you want for Christ-mas? Actually, you have no op-Spiceworld are blanketing the country, from Penzance to Aberdeen. No permanent harm will be done. The film, as light and ephemeral as a bubble, lasts only an hour and a half, and within a few months it will have vanished ten sight, with or without its star attraction, the all-singing, all-shouting, all-gyrating Spice Girls.

The girls themselves - the marketing phenomenon of the age, at least until the Teletubbies arrived — seem aware of their mortality. "And, like; is it all going to be over soon? Emma (Baby) ponders as the hour of their first live concert approaches. Cue Stephen Fry in a fantasy flash, wearing judge's robes, accus-

standard single. In fact, Spiceworld might already be too late to capitalise on public frenzy. Shooting occupied June and July, following a script prepared — this is difficult to believe - over the course of a year.

Hot-blooded 12-year-olds, the film's core audience, may trot off to the cinema. But overall, the activities of Baby. Sporty, Scary, Ginger and Posh still seem less likely to get cash registers ringing than the innocent games of Tinky Winky, Dipsy, Laa-Laa and Po.

Still, Spiceworld is here, and you need to know its geogra-phy. The style and slant recalls the Beatles films of the 1960s. especially A Hard Day's Night, another movie devoted to catching a pop group's experience in the teeth of fushion and public acclaim. We follow one crazy week leading up to the girls' concert at the Albert Hall. Richard E. Grant acts badly manic as the group's manager. Alan Cumming, making a TV documentary, acts badly preten-flous. Barry Humphries's tabloid press baron, eager for negative news, sends a photograther to spy. American writers pitch desperate ideas for the girls' movie debut. Their est friend Nicola waits out het pregnancy. Celebrities sprinkle cameo appearances from Roger Moore to Meat Loaf). Aliens visit from outer

script with at least one foot on the ground and a starring bunch of gifted music-makers with clearly defined personalities. Here the director is Bob Spiers, highly experienced in television comedy, but floored by the challenge of bringing we hyperactive women in large shoes to order. They have their own personalities, to be sure, but you can only catch them in snippets, in

between larking about, song

belting, and much dressing

space. In brief, it's a mess.

A Hard Day's Night doo-

died and jostled its way too,

but did so secure in a knowing

director, Richard Lester, a

Spiceworld Empire, PG, 92 mins Best left to 12-year-olds or cultural historians

The Magnificent Ambersons

National Film Theatre U, 88 mins Revival of Orson Welles's most humane film

Kitchen Renoir, 15, 112 mins Chic and moody tale of grief in Hong Kong

up. The film needs an anchor, but neither the girls nor Kim Fuller's script are in a position to provide it.

And, for all the frenzy, there is something melancholy about Spiceworld, so desperate to be of the moment, but acutely aware that obsolescence looms. Pop fashions fade. Bursts of confidence in British movies fade. For the way it feeds off a heady period in popular culture, the film can be summed up in a stray remark by the girls' musical director, played by Jools Holland. That was absolutely perfect," he purrs, "without actually being any good."

The film will certainly not have the staying power of Orson Welles's The Magnificent Ambersons, a film 55 years old, now revived daily at the National Film Theatre (until January 8) before venturing across the country. The best Christmas present a film buff could wish would be Ambersons restored to its director's intentions. But the extensive footage cut following a disastrous preview in 1942 went up in smoke on studio orders later that year. Scenes were not only removed; new footage was shot, not by Welles, and a happy ending tacked on.

ut enough splendour survives to make this adaptation of Booth Tarkington's novel match Citizen Kane in cinematic delights. In some respects, indeed, Ambersons goes one better than Kane. This film has a heart. The director digs deep into characters and feelings as he watches American society in the late 19th century seesaw between aristocratic elegance and the brash automobile age. Welles had a personal stake in these characters, particularly George Minafer, played by Tim Holt, the obnoxious brat whose comeuppance is longed for by all. Welles knew about brats: he was one himself, and appreciated that Hollywood was waiting for the wonder boy to take a fall.

The film also tingles with ambivalence, as the camera caresses the characters' opulent lifestyles and sees both danger and beauty in the march of the automobile. Eva damn, such as Scorsese's The Age of Innocence, tries to ape its irony and poise. But no film can cap the lustrous score by Bernard Herrmann, or Stanley Cortex's sharp-edged photography, or the startling performance of Agnes Moorehead as George's emotionally frustrated Aunt Fanny. Butchered or not, there is only one Ambersons.
"No one can shelter you

from pain and death, or make that journey for you." Power-ful words, these, and the Hong Kong film Kitchen, based on a popular Japanese novel and directed by Yim Ho, contains much other food for thought. But you have to hunt for it. You must penetrate acres of gliding, blue-rinsed photography, listen to a weepy little tune eight times over, and watch, bemused, as characters keep silent, go berserk, stare at the moon, blur gender lines, or crouch in the fridge. Grief, plainly, is at the root

of things for Louie and Aggie, one a young hairstylist (Jor-dan Chan), the other a girl driven in on herself by her grandmother's death (Yasuko Tomite, a starlet from Japan). But the fashionably oblique approach of Yim Ho, best known in the West for his thoughtful thriller The Day the Sun Turned Cold, makes it hard for us to share their

uch catches the eye. Rain washes over the images. The moon is reflected in a knife blade. Green apples from through an apartment's blue light. There is something refreshing, too, about Louie's uncomplicated acceptance of his father's sex change. When dealing with pain and death, however, chic visual tricks and off-beat humour are not the most useful companions. See the film, but prepare to be exasperated.

Besides the Spiceworld babes, who and what can your children enjoy this Christmas? The Borrowers is the best of the batch, an exuberant, liberty-taking treatment of Mary Norton's book about minuscule scroungers, with imagi-native special effects and an agreeable cast (John Goodman, Jim Broadbentj.

George of the Jungle offers the genial Brendan Fraser swinging through trees as a clumsy Tarzan, smitten with love for a socialite on safari. And Prince Valiant, less polished, bounces along with its Arthurian fantasy and mixed cast: look for Joanna Lumley. not absolutely fabulous, but reasonably striking as the evil witch Morgan Le Fey.

If children want tougher stuff, Home Alone 3 offers slapstick violence galore, coupled unfortunately, with minimal imagination. The new Bond, Tomorrow Never Dies, is good news for car enthusiasts, but not very rewarding if you like playing with dolls.



Memories of Beatlemania stir as Richard E. Grant leads Baby, Scary, Posh, Sporty and Ginger Spice down a flight of stairs

## The beginning of the end'

OUR panel of young film fairs passes judgment on the Fab Five, and chooses the best and worst of 1997

■ SPICEWORLD Leslie Isaiah Thomas, 19: Surely the beginning of the end of the Spice Girls. Dom Young, 19: An embar-rassing speciacie. Jethro Ankin, 19: Spicy foods can sometimes irritate, this movie definitely does. A defi-

nite late contender for worst movie of the year. Sharada Osman, 18: A nail in the coffin for the Spice Girls and every person who took a cameo role in the film.

FILMS OF THE YEAR Best: Nil by Mouth: A deepty affecting film about domestic violence. Career Girls: Pro-found and insightful.

Worst: Fever Pitch: Boring, macho nonsense. I do not want to see this movie ever DOM

Best: L.A. Confidential: Cool actors uttering cool dialogue. A definite Oscar contender. The People vs Larry Flint: Well-acted and highly entertaining. Worst: G.I. Jane: I. predicted

the storyline and almost all of the dialogue. Welcome to clichéd movie-making.

JETHRO Best: Chasing Amy: Kevin Smith wrote a script so good it could be on the stage. A very funky movie. Nil by Mouth: The excellent performances and bold direction from Gary Oldman make this a highly original piece of film-making.

I needed Klassons Worst: The Peacemaker: This disturbingly mediocre film was the first offering from Spielberg's new studio. Hopefully not a sign of things to

SNAP **VERDICT** 

SHARADA Best: Austin Powers: I like a

good laugh and this had loads of them. Regeneration: Par Barker's novel was adapted. into a fine, haunting movie, containing some of the year's best performances. Worst: Speed II: The original Speed was funny, a little dark and had urgency by the bucketload. This was one dull.

### Santa rides again

A Christmas

cartoon has emerged out of tragedy

rom novice author mas television writer is some journey. Geoffrey Sundquist achieves this tomorrow when ITV screens an adaptation of his book and brainchild. Father Christmas and the Miss-

ing Reindeer. The voiceovers for the £500.000 30-minute children's animation are by David Jason. His presence gives the show across-the-board festive appeal, recognised by TV buyers from an astonishing 40 countries - Lebanon to Sierre Leone who have rushed to buy the programme. Its makers, after all, are Cosgrove Hall, world-class animators with a portfolio of hits including The Wind in the Willows and Peter and the Wolf.

Sundquist is a 44-yearold former Saatchi marketing man who had never written a story in his life. He began writing after the suicide of his 38year-old younger brother, Gerry, an actor. He became hooked on heroin. brother who helped him through. "I would pick him up for Sunday lunch at his houseboat at Hampton Court, but this time he had gone under a train," Sundquist says.

. The shock was pro-found. "I had lost happiness. My parents were deeply upset. As the el-dest I had to put happiness back into life."

Sundquist released his grief by writing a story of redemption, which tells of Father Christmas trying to find his reindeer. which disappear days before Chrimmas. He teams up with a poor boy called Simon and, after much tooting on magic horns the reindeer are captured in time for Father Christmas to do his rounds.

Sundquist showed the story to a friend who said "send it to the BBC and ITV". "Vanessa Chapman controller of children's programmes, ITV wrote back and said: Love the story. What does it look like?" Pictures coming.' I replied. I hadn't done any. I came together with Cosprove Hall, and they got on

HarperCollins commissioned the story as a children's picture book, and on publication this November Sundquist sent a copy down the Thames in his brother's memory. "I dedicated it to Gerry. I wanted something that was part of him to live on," he says.

ALEX WIJERATNE Father Christmas and the Missing Reindeer will be shown by ITV at noon on Christmas Day

#### GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament KIRSTY KINNEAR

Age: 23

Profession: Actress

Plans for Christmas: Not content with eating turkey. she'll also be playing one. The bird is the smaller of two, um, meaty roles in David Wood's adaptation of Babe the Sheep-Pig. currently wowing the under-tens at the Wythenshawe Forum, Manchester. Her main part, though, is as Old Ma, the sheep who shows Babe that good manners are the key to successful flock

control. She auditioned for Wood shortly before leaving the Webber Douglas Academy: "I'd done a bit of work on my baa" and was determined to show it off in the audition."

Father figure: She is the daughter of the late comic actor Roy Kinnear and the actress Carmel Cryan. "When I was 13, my Dad saw me playing an octogenarian called Arthur Itis. He found that very arrusing and although he didn't want me to become an actress I'm sure he would also have enjoyed Babe."

Banned by the Church: While reading drama at Birmingham University she was due to star in David Mamer's explicit a comedy, Sexual Perversity in Chicago, on the Edinburgh Fringe. We were booked into a church hall on Prince's Street, but about rijo days before the run started the vicar read the script, decided le language was too strong and refused to let us on. We rushnearsed a Caryl Churchill piece instead."

New year's resolution? I did a lot of classical work at plirmingham, things like The White Devil and The Winter's Tale, and would like to do more after Babe."

DANIEL ROSENTHAL | the awkward longings of Sally

## Britain still deprived of the full monty

MOVIES OF THE YEAR: Our critic finds heartening

and depressing trends in his pick of 1997's best films

n 1997 screens continued to be dominated by movie blunderbusses, mostly from Hollywood, exploding with extreme violence, immaculate special effects and scripts and characters too thin to stand upright. A few had outrageousness on their side: Face/Off, for instance, and G.J. Jane. These took popcorn cinema somewhere new, always preferable to the extreme cases of déjà vu prompted by The Lost World: Jurassic Park and Batman & Robin.

There were also mainstream movies with class, among them Absolute Power, Scream, Donnie Brasco and half of Contact (before silliness took hold). Plus, of course, L.A. Confidential, the year's best thriller.

But in thinking of the highlights of the year's releases, my mind keeps turning back to far smaller films, imperfect perhaps in assorted ways, but blessed triumphantly with a human face and an imagination stretching beyond the digital witchcraft of computerised effects.

I remember the vulnerabilities of the college friends in Mike Leigh's Career Girls and Potter, director, tango dancer and lead actress in The Tango Lesson. Atom Egoyan's The Sweet Hereafter comes rushing back, with its eloquent and unsettling response to a small town's grief. So do Carine Adler's Under the Skin and Regeneration, Gillies McKinnon's intelligent treatment of

**6** More people are going to the movies, but the range is smaller **9** 

the walking wounded of the First World War. I see the belligerent and

battered faces of Gary Oldman's Nil by Mouth, ripped bleeding from real life, and the doughly Finns in Aki Kaurismaki's Drifting Clouds, coping with redundancy and other miseries with deadpan aplomb. So many films close us off to ourselves, and teach us nothing: these films lead us inwards.

There are also sparky films, without formal polish, offering quirky testament to the power of cinema and the human spirit. I rejoice in Andrew Kotting's round-Britain ramble, Gallivant, in the nonchalant diversions of Irma Vep, from Oliver Assayas, and the endearing comedy of the nobudget Smalltime, from Britain's newest name to watch, Shane Meadows.

Several things strike me about this list. Six films are British in essence — six-and-ahalf if you count the European Tango Lesson. New life does seem to be stirring here, especially way down the budget ladder. It is also notable that, by and large, these films have been seen by so few people, even in areas with outlets for independent fare. More people may be going to the movies, but the range available is getting smaller.

Audiences are seeing The Full Monty (a huge success, although since this British film was bankrolled and distributed by an American company none of its profits will stay in this country), or The English Patient (for all the Oscars, not a film that lingers). or Men in Black, or some



Smalltime made director Shane Meadows the new name to watch in British film

other beneficiary of massive advertising and multiplex exposure. The small film, the foreign film, the oddity: these are endangered species.

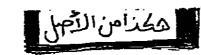
It is against this background that any over-excited talk of a British film renaissance must be placed. According to figures in last week's Screen Interna-

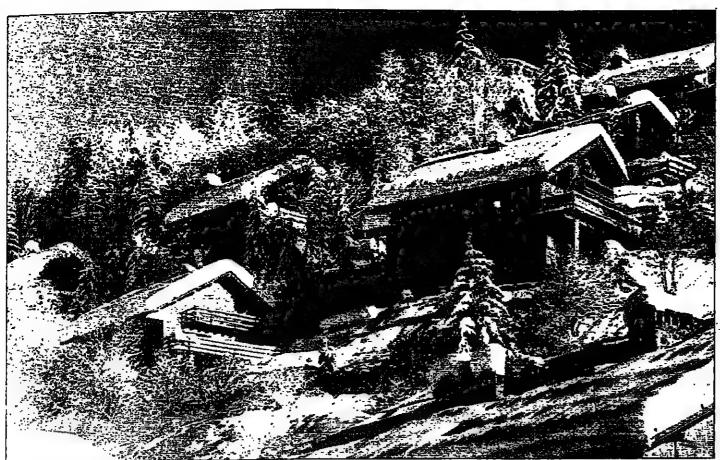
tional trade paper, 124 films were made here this year, 72 of them financed entirely from quarter of those 72, however, have found British distribu-

TOTS. A film only comes alive when it is seen, and urgent . action needs to be taken to

loosen the major distributors grip (a tall order), increase andiences curiosity, build British sources. Scarcely a more screens, or instigate more realistic attitudes among these stampeding the lotter honeypot. But ler's get Christmas over with first.

GEOFF BROWN





The five-bedroom Chalet Sorbiers: good value at £360,000? British interest in the ski-chalet market is growing

## Time to go for snow

ritish buyers are back in the Alps. The pound's strength against the French franc. coupled with the severe property recession in France, means that for the first time in seven years interest in the top echelons of the ski-chalet market is growing.

Zigi Davenport, of the Alpine Apartments Agency in Leominster. Herefordshire (01544 388234), says: Three years ago, El hought a drastically low Fr7.6. Last July sterling soared as high as Fr10.35. Now £1 is worth Fr9.8.

"Easy access to Geneva airport has made the Alps a popular choice for the business executive seeking a European base. The Channel Tunnel has also helped: there are TGV lines with stations at Annecy, Cluses, Moutiers and Bourg-St Maurice. Many British families are moving away from seaside holidays for active pursuits, which the Alos can offer year-round.

Two years ago, E120,000 might have bought a three-bedroom chalet in the Alps. But clients now have to pay £150,000 to £200,000. For £300,000, a client would expect a The pound's strength is making a French chalet a good buy, says Diana Wildman

chalet in a popular resort with fine views and four bedrooms." UK agents are finding that would-be buyers are after detached chalets costing between £150,000 and £500,000, not, as might be expected, the cheap studios or onebedroom apartments, which cost about £22,000.

Mrs Davenport savs: "Most people buy with rental income in mind. Tour operators know this and are seeking smart, three to fivebedroom chalets. But smart chalets in popular resorts are at a premium; too many international buyers are chasing too few properties."

Alpine Apartments is selling Tapia, a four-bedroom, four-bathroom, fully furnished chalet with a full-length sun terrace, on the ski slope at Méribel, for £330,000. There is no car access in winter. Near by is the five-bedroom Chalet Sorbiers for £360,000.

This shortage of alpine properties surprised Veroni Gilbert from

East Hendred in Oxfordshire when she and her husband Anthony decided to buy a chalet for themselves and their sons aged 16, 13 and 8 last winter.

She says: "We were thinking of moving to a large home with some land in Oxfordshire, but we decided to buy a ski home instead. because we adore skiing. We wanted to be close to Geneva airport to make weekend skiing feasible. We looked at several properties in various resorts and got very depressed.

ventually, we looked at a large farmhouse in the middle of the slopes above the village of Grand Bounaird in the ski region of Chinaillon. This turned out to be vast, seven-bedroom home in a half-acre garden with an open-air swimming pool. We were not looking for something so big, but the price we paid would buy little in

Courchevel or Val-d'Isère. We plan to spend most school holidays there, plus occasional weekends. "It is easily reached by air or via the Channel Tunnel. But buying the house took ages and although we agreed to buy last January, it was not officially ours until Sep-tember." The Gilberts paid about

Hamptons International has chalets in Meribel from £60,000 to £400,000, including a six-bedroom flat on the first floor at Le Grand Tetras, in the residential area of Le Belvedere in the upper part of the main town. There is direct access to the slopes and the ski lifts.

£250,000.

Bill McClintock, of Hamptons, says: "Méribel has an extremely long ski season and is open through the summer, when facilities include an 18-bole golf course, tennis, swimming, riding and walking, as well as ice skating in the 1992 Olympics stadium. The prospect of good rental income is attracting international investors to buy at the top end of the market.

Although the capital outlay is high, the rental return and capital gain should be higher."

## Mouse to find a house.

How easy is it to

buy a home on the Internet?

Katherine Bergen found out

out shoe leather, no fillups of the petrol tank as you travel far and wide to view houses: a personal computer mouse can do much of the work. Now that property companies are going on the Internet, you can

select a property by PC. The Internet Property Finder (IPF) is one such site. Its subscribers include Savills, Knight Frank, John D. Wood, Cluttons, Humberts, Jackson Stops & Staff, Hamptons, Strutt & Parker, Lane Fox, General Accident, Lurot Brand and the housebuilder Galliard Homes

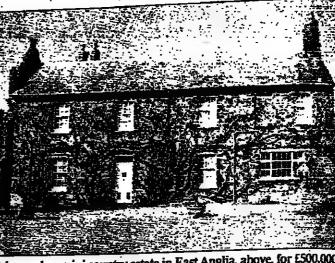
Nicholas Leeming of Humberts, who helped to set up IPF three years ago, describes it as a "global pool" of agents' data that is constantly updated, "In the next five years," he says, "it will become the common method of seeking property details and will cut down enormously on administration, especially phoning and paperwork."

Sounds wonderful, but put to the test, IPF could not find a house for between £200,000 und £300,000 in London. When the request was changed to a flat, it offered 25 examples. One of these, in a riverside development called Spice Quay and still under construction by Galliard Homes, is on the market for the very specific price of £209,583. The e-mail response options include asking for written sales details, requesting to view the

site or even leaving an offer. Going further afield, IPF conjured up a house with 35 acres of meadows and paddocks at East Dereham in Norfolk. This was one of five properties that appeared in the £400,000 to £500,000 range. Ask for more details and interiors, location and floor plans can all be scrutinised.

The Knight Frank Website gives only the options of London or "country". If you select "country", all properties within your chosen price range will come up. This is fine if you don't mind browsing. But if your heart is set on a particular county, you will have to sift further.

The list, when it appears on screen, is pleasingly clear with a



Fungarine.

Mam Harr

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Threat

Record Report

Web search: a mini-country estate in East Anglia, above, for £500,000, and a large house in Grampian, below, for about £195,000



picture of each home next to basic details. For more details, you can click on to a full-page description

of a property.

When a request was placed for a house near Inverness with more than four bedrooms, HomeCo came up with Arradoul House near Elgin, Grampian. The house had recently changed agents, from Wink & McKenzie to Smiths Gore in Elgin (01343 820213), but this had not been updated on the Internet. Smiths Gore is asking about £195,000 and has illustrated the property with five photographs: one serial and one of the house from the garden, and pictures of the kitchen, dining room and drawing room.

In response to a request for a building plot in Inverness, Proper-Network came up with a house e. Munro and Noble is seeking £35,000 for the L25-acre site. Berkeley Homes put its magazine Moves on the Internet 18

months ago. On its Website, each property is helpfully numbered on a map of the county. Paul Vallone, Berkeley's marketing director, says the site gets about 100 inquiries a month and estimates that El million in sales can be attributed to the Net. He adds: "In a month or two we will also list details of local

schools and transport." But the future lies with virtual reality "fly-throughs". Now com-mon in the United States, these are special videos that allow buyers to walk around" the rooms of a home. They give a good impression of dimensions, light and 1030

International Property Finder:

■ HomeCo. UK Property Network: Berkeley Homes: Knight Frank e-mail:

### **PROPERTY**

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LOVIDON PROPERTY	4.			

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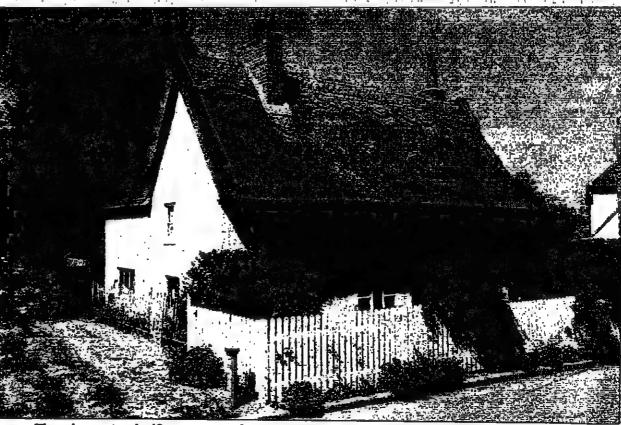
Tower of London and

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River Thames, the



The price went up by 10 per cent once it was realised that the cottage had belonged to George Orwell

## Homes with star quality

The rich and famous are different. While the rest of us pound the streets looking for the perfect house, celebrities use buying agents. But finding the right home, or selling, for a celebrity can be fraught with potential disaster

The first difficulty is maintaining a complete news embargo if asked to do so. You can only keep the lid on for a certain amount of time," says Colin Mackenzie of Hamptons. It might be the cleaner, the gardener - sometimes it's even the celebrity's own agent - who spills the

Dawn Carritt of Jackson Stops & Staff says film stars can be the exception. Michael Caine seemed happy to link his name to the sale of his house in Oxfordshire that cost more than £1.8 million.

However, when Hamptons was trying to sell Susan George's Thameside home, the star insisted on a privacy clause. Viewers were not to know it was her home and all photographs and souvenirs were removed prior to viewing, until it failed to sell. We eventually persuaded her to go public" says Mr Mackenzie. "While we weren't inundated by Straw Dogs aficionados, we did sell."

American film stars are a different issue. Paranoid about security, they would never buy a house once owned by a politician, and the owner of a house in Little Venice, London, will never know if Madonna had really wanted to buy it. Furious that her viewing had leaked to the press, she dropped it like a hot potato.

Such stars have their lawyers draw up

detailed confidentiality clauses to be signed by agents and vendors and, if it is

Sue Herdman on the

tactics celebrities use when buying or selling

they who are selling, prospective viewers,

Television personalities are, according to Robert Bailey of Strutt & Parker, usually more than willing to expose themselves and their homes". Stars such as Christopher Biggins and Angharad Rees recognise that it is better to be looked over than overlooked. They embrace the press at these times, having a canny eye

for publicity and a competitive price for their house. Pop stars are likely to insist on total privacy, especially if they are family men. If word gets out they will simply withdraw from the sale.

The more outré the star, the more conventional the home he or she looks for. Perry Press, of agents Pereds, says: "Most of my chents, including bands like The Who, are after a touch of medieval charm in a rural location."

This is borne out by Atty Beor-Roberts of Knight Frank. His patch covers the Cotswolds and his star clients want complete privacy, preferably out of a

He says: "It's often a simple farmhouse they're after with an Aga and three deerhounds."

Once the agent has succeeded in luring some shaggy haired star drummer to his rural idyll, what is he like to deal with? "Frankly." says Mr Beor-Roberts, "often jolly rude, hours late and with far too many hangers-on bowing and scraping to

his every word."

Karen Carpmael of the Knightsbridge
agents W.A. Ellis says: "There are two types of celebrity: those who are low-key and charming and those who are unbelievably arrogant and obnoxious."

Can she name one? "Absolutely not," she says, discreetly but, talking of names, "the second group tend to use their status to get the attention they think they erve. And they assume money buys

it can be to an agent's advantage if the star requests no publicity. Otherwise, they have to deal with time-wasters.

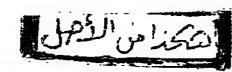
"Time-wasters," says Ms Carpmael, often trip up during the initial conversation. Tourists have great stories of looking on behalf of friends back home but are usually delighted with a quick discussion and a couple of glossy brochures to take home."

A celebrity sale does not always add to the value of the house, says Jonathan Hewlett of Savills. In fact, a celebrity connection can detract from the value of a London residence.

Take Freddie Mercury's old house in Kensington," he says. "It remains a mecca to his fans and the current owners still have to cope with graffiti on their walls." Out of town, a famous connection can

pay dividends, particularly if the famous person was literary. Bryan Bishop, agents in Old Welwyn, Hertfordshire, had a small thatched cottage on their books last summer. When they realised it had been George Orwell's home, featuring in his novel Animal Farm, they had "fantastic interest, lots of press coverage and, we reckon, a 10 per cent increase in its value"





#### New Zealand qualify for meeting with **England**

ECRICKET: England will meet New Zealand in the semi-finals of the women's World Cup in Madras on Boxing Day. New Zealand yesterday had little trouble in defeating Ireland by 139 runs in their quarter-final,

played in Bombay.

Debbie Hockley and Emily

Drumm launched the New Zealand innings with a partnership of 121 and the team total of 244 for three was well out of range of Ireland, who struggled to 105 for nine in their 50 overs. Only three players reached double figures, Adele Spence, with 18, finishing as top

#### Miami Blues

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Marrio Grier and Dave Meggett ran for second-half touchdowns as the New England Patriots beat Miami Dolphins 14-12 on Monday night to win the AFC East title and gain home idvantage in next week's rematch against the Dolphins in the play offs. Miami have not won an away game in the post-season rince 1974.

#### China on standby

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II MOTOR RACING China could stage a Formula One grand prix next year at a new track in the southern city of Zhuhai. The circuit is one of two reserve venues — South Africa's Kyalami track is the other — if either the Belgium or Portugal races are withdrawn, according to reports in Hong Kong.

#### Fernandez regrets

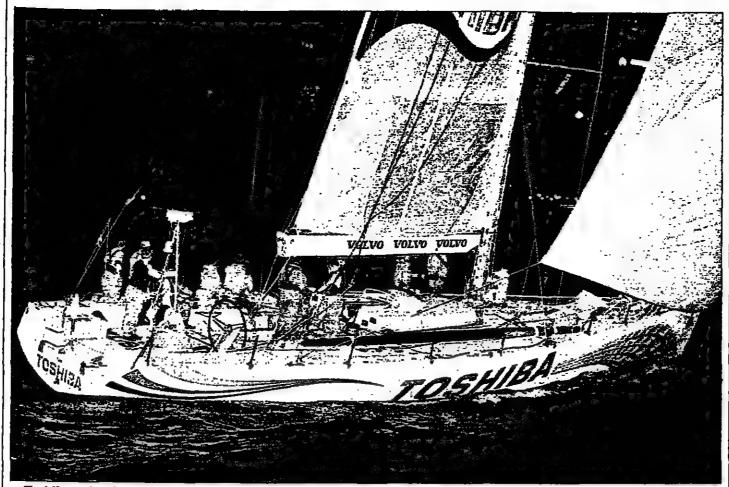
■ TENNIS: Mary Joe Fernandez, of the United States, has withdrawn from next month's Australian Open because of a wrist injury. Fernandez, ranked No II in the world, has twice been runner-up in the event, losing to Steffi Graf in 1990 and Monica Seles in 1992.

#### Barcelona bound

HOCKEY: Lauren and Annie Williams, the daughters of the legendary rugby union player, J. P. R. Williams, are among the 26 players chosen for a Great Britain development camp in Barcelona next month.

### Darkest moment follows dawning of grim reality

هكذا من الإمل



Toshiba arrives in Sydney in sixth place, thanks to a frantic late surge after slipping from third to last in a single, baffling night

## Sidelined en route to Sydney

things went wrong for us, we had had a good third leg on Toshiba, disputing the lead with EF Language coming across the Great Australian Bight. The fleet had developed a big separation, north and south of about 100 miles, which we all thought was going to be the deciding factor. We didn't expect it to condense to just 25 miles from first to last in the Bass Strait and we came through there in the top three, only six miles behind the leader.

Going up the Australian coast, there were varying wind strengths inshore and offshore and it was a game of getting the most velocity. Two days before the finish, when Toshiba was between Wilson's Promontory and Cape Howe off the Victoria coast, the only boat next to us was BrunelSunergy, which was in sight as the day wore on. It was one of those moments when we just had to choose a way to go. It was nothing radical, not really a big decision in the whole race, or a case of shall-we-go-in or shall-we-goout, it was just sailing on and keeping in touch and covering

The other boats went out of sight

Paul Standbridge, skipper of Toshiba, reflects on the latest leg of the Whitbread race

during the evening and the wind shift tended to put us in towards the coast. Again it was nothing we really talked about or queried, it was just natural. You've got to sail somewhere, so off we went. As night set in, the wind got lighter and lighter and we thought: "Yikes, this could be a bit scary, I hope the others are having a calm patch, too." Then the wind filled in off the land, as it does, and we sailed along the coastline and we thought it was probably OK - no big deal - that is until we got the position schedule in the morning and found we were

in eighth place. I knew we were in trouble then. As daylight came, we saw a few boats on the horizon in front - five or six miles away — the girls in EF Education were ahead and Brunel was out to sea and behind us, but it was an ambiguous position. We were as good as in last place with only 250 miles to go. Not much time in boats which are supposedly

When you are skipper, whenever

get there last. Obviously, there is a little bit of the going is good, you get a certain amount of glory and when the going gets bad, you get the blame pure and simple - and quite

"Jesus, that is actually my responsibility.' The clock was ticking after that and the miles were slipping away. One shouldn't use the girls as too much of a boat to beat because of our chauvinistic attitudes, but they are and that is the bottom line. So I was very nervous about being beaten, not only by the girls but by eight other boats.

rightly so, because you have to take

the rough with the smooth. So you

do feel worse as captain. You think:

We worked very hard after that. I didn't need to motivate the crew to get them out of last place - it goes thout saying. We were all looking at each other and saying:
"Right, we're getting out of here."
So we started working hard, or I should say continued to work hard. because we worked hard the whole time. If you don't, you'll be left likely to slip up badly because he's behind. Although getting to Sydney proving to be very good.

in sixth place was not what we would have wanted at the start of the leg, we were very relieved not to

form beginning to show in the race now. I wouldn't read too much into it at the moment. We're still not panicking. After leg one, you come in sixth

and you say that's OK, it's one bad race in a nine-race regatta. But, of course, time is going to run out and we can't say that forever. But the same thing does apply; we have done three races out of nine and we are in seventh and I am not particularly happy with that The good side is that we are only one point off sixth, though I don't particularly want to be sixth either. At this stage in the game, I still think any one of the leading seven boats is capable of winning. People normally win this race by default in the last race Tokio's dismasting

let Yamaha through. This time it will probably be the same. Then, purely on the mathematics, anyone could win and the top three boats are all going to have some bad legs. Paul Cayard is probably the least

### Klinsmann's bid to turn back time doomed to failure

ürgen Klinsmann's trium-phant return to Tottenham Hotspur takes me back to my own triumphant return to a place in the south of Crete. It was a speck of a village called Agia Galini, and I loved it and I was happy there. That's all, really. No pen recorded either visit, no eyes but mine read the words.

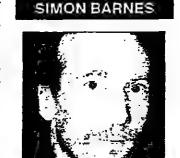
I first went there in 1970. Agia Galini had perhaps less than a dozen foreign visitors, it was pretty hard to get to, a five-mile hike under fierce sun from the nearest road. And we swam and sat about in cafes and talked and talked and were made quietly welcome. That's all, really."

Two years later, the place was a throbbing tourist resort. Stalls everywhere selling tat. Every house a boarding house. The amiable, moustached proprietor now a harassed and successful businessman. Agia Galini had lost its innocence, and so had I. And I resolved then never go back. It is a mistake that people make throughout life that you can go back to a place, a person, a job, a life that made you happy. Klinsmann's return to Spurs seems, at least on the face of it to be entirely prompted by this mistaken view of life.

Call it Klinsmann's Error. It is one to which football people are greatly inclined. They have the sense of appropriateness that is better used as an aspect of the craft of writing novels. if it seems somehow appropriate, it has to be right. So Klinsmann comes back. He had one wonderful season with Spurs in which he scored 29 goals, was footballer of the year and charmed the pants off everyone in a manner that even Ruud Gullit cannot aspire to. He comes back as if such a year can be had for the asking: the magic of the appropriate return will make everything

come out right. Football is littered with tales of magnificently appropriate returns and their inevitable failure. Howard Kendall, at Everton, is a troubled man at a troubled club. His return to the club he managed so gloriously was intended to put an end to trouble. At Spurs. the appointment of Osvaldo Ardiles as manager was a step to an inevitably glorious future. Ardiles had been the most dramatic signing in the history of English football when, in 1978, he was a World Cup winner with Argentina, crossing the world to play football for Spurs and doing so with buge distinction.

expected to complete the circle the future?



Midweek View

with cosmic appropriateness, a novelist's simple turn of the plot that led inevitably to the happy ending. But it was a hideous

You cannot go back to old loves expecting the same joys of discovery. How many times can you lose your virginity, after all? An overworked and oppressed journalist on a national newspaper might feel nostalgic about the local paper he worked on as a youth, but he returns there at his peril. I am occasionally nostalgic about my days of freelancing around Asia — but go back to it? Hong Kong has changed beyond recognition, and so have I. That is not politics, it is Time.

The glorious return is nothing less than a fight against Time, an attempt to force the hands to move counterclockwise by sheer force of will. As such, it can do nothing but fail.

Time, however, has softened the severity of the rule I made as I left Agia Galini for the last time. I will go back to places now. I have been back to Hong Kong and I keep returning to my beloved Luangwa Valley in Zambia. 1 teli myself it is all right to go back. but don't go looking for what you found last time. Nothing stays the same, especially not yourself. That is by way of being the definition of being alive.

Spurs have changed, in mood, in manner, in personnel, Kiinsmann has changed, too, he being alive. Does he seek the things he had at Spurs last time? The same easy love, the same effortless triumph, the happy return to the easy Agia Galini of the past? Or is he wise enough to seek a new horizon, a new challenge, to embrace the changes in himself. in Spurs, in Premiership football. His return as manager was and to march not into the past but

Fc7

Bd7 e5

Oc5 Be7 Ra5

Kvd8 Bd6

cxd5

RUGBY UNION: ENGLISH CLUBS ANGERED BY MINOR FORMAT CHANGES

### Threat to boycott cup increases

THE prospect of a boycott of the Heineken Cup by England's leading clubs looked a listinct possibility last night after what appeared to be only cosmetic changes to the structure and schedule of next season's competition.

The directors of the European Rugby Cup Ltd (ERC) have scrapped one round of the tournament - the quarterfinals play-offs - which has reduced its length from ten weeks to nine. Next season the quarter-finals will consist of he five pool winners, plus the

three best runners-up.
The competition has been put back three weeks from this year's start date to enable Clubs to play at least the opening six league games in the Allied Dunbar Premiership, which kicks off on Au-

The pool matches will be played between October 3 and November 7, a section of the season that the clubs feel cuts right across the domestic competition they are striving to establish on a meaningful and uninterrupted basis.

On top of that, the situation is exacerbated next season because of World Cup qualifying games involving England. Scotland, Ireland and Italy, as well as pre-Christmas internationals for which the last three weeks of November and the first week of December have been set aside.

Another large hole in the auturan schedule will not apneal to owners and investors, most of whom would rather see the Heineken Cup run as a thread throughout the season

**BOXING DAY FIXTURES** 

RICHARD HILL, Saracens' England flanker, has a hamstring injury and will miss the Allied Dunbar Premiership game with Leicester on Boxing Day. The match, one of the most important in Saracens' history, is sure to draw the biggest crowd yet to the team's new home at Watford. Alex Bennett, from Orrell, replaces

Saracens slt proudly on top of the Premiership but their or rescheduled after Christmas as a build-up to the five nations' championship. Some are aiready reluctant to enter the European Conference. David Buchanan, the president of Richmond, said yester-

day that the real issues had not been addressed and that a meeting would be held to discuss the ramifications early in the New Year. "We have to

#### **Saracens without Hill**

Second division

championship credentials will be tested to the full by Leicester, who beat Harlequins 27-3 last Saturday.

Damian Hopley, 27, of Wasps, the former England centre, will miss the rest of the season because of the recurrence of the knee injury which has blighted his career. Steve Ojomoh, the Bath flanker, is

Gloucester or Sale before the

end of the year.

we wish to participate in Europe. The options we had hoped would be available to us are not. It doesn't do the game's sponsors or individual sponsors any good if we have a few weeks of domestic rugby, then switch the lights out again. It will never build our game. We have to consider the full implications of what ERC has come up with and decide whether we wish to

play in it." Charles Levison, one of the English directors on the ERC board which met in Dublin last Friday, said that progress had been made on some of the concerns in England and France about the organisation of the Heineken Cup. The deferral of the start of the cup next season was a "substantial improvement", he said. However, he agreed that the possibility of a boycott was a

"serious consideration". "It doesn't just relate to the structure of the season, but also the division of moneys and the quality of sides," he

## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

#### BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

More fireworks from the Goldway-Pavliceks OKBridge challenge match that I mentioned yesterday. Newcomers to this online bridge club are amazed at the speed of play, which is normally no slower than face-to-face bridge. This increases the potential for addiction. The unofficial record for most hands played in a week (710) is held by Mary Vickers of Boston. Massachusetts, when she was at a loose end: her house was isolated in a snowstorm.

Dealer West North-South game **\*AKQB** +AJ876 **+73** N **+1043 6872** ♥KJ106542 TAGB 187 • K 10 5 2 8 **#J 10** 4195 +094 **+K88542** Ε

Declarer rose with the ace of diamonds at trick one to hold his losses to a diamond, a heart, two clubs and a diamond ruff, conceding 800. Meanwhile, Four Hearts would have lost three spades and a trick in each minor for -300. Where did North-South go wrong in the bidding?

Few experienced pairs play a double of a Four Heart opener as purely penalties. The preferred definition ranges from "informative", showing a good hand, usually including spade tolerance, to "take-out", showing a threesuiter, If Goldway plays the double as take-out, then North

was on thin ice doubling with a small doubleton club, and might have preferred to chance Four Spades himself, or gone quietly with a pass. If the double was of the "informative", or "pass or bid Four Spades" species, then South should have left the double in and hoped for the best, especially at the vulnerability: it makes little sense to brave the five level, vulnerable against not, without fair expectation of

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend

By Philip Howard

OCOTE a. An Amerindian tribe b. A pine c. A desert marsupial

RAMBLA a. A Spanish hiker b. A shanty C. A ravine

RUBINETTO a. A deep red dye b. A builfighter's rosette

QUEBRADA a. A mountain stream b. "What impertinence!" c. Writing by knots Answers on page 33

## KEENE on CHESS

Qe2 Kb1

34 O13 35 O15

39 Og8 40 Oxc4

41 Qg8

Roc4

Black lost on time

By RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

#### British triumph

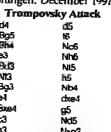
Nigel Short and Michael Adams have achieved the extraordinary feat of reaching the semi-finals of the qualifying section of the Fide world championship in Groningen, Holland. In the first round of the semi-finals. Anand drew with Gelfand, while Adams beat Short. Although one of the British grandmasters will be eliminated, there will, therefore, be one British grandmaster in the final climinator that determines the challenger to Anatoly Karpov, the reigning Fide champion.

The clash between Short and Adams will also settle the vexed question of who is now the strongest British player. Although Short has already played one world title match. and continues to head the British Chess Federation team. Adams has overtaken him in the ratings. In the quarter-final Adams

had a tough match against the Dutch grandmaster Loek van Wely, winning when Van Wely lost on time in the playoff section.

White: Michael Adams Black: Loek van Wely Fide world championship Groningen, December 1997

Nh6 B/13NI3 9 Bxe4



m of in. Diagram of final position 

Competition winner

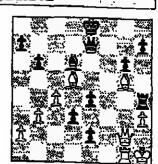
The name of the Saturday competition winner for December 13 was omitted last Saturday. The winner is John Wilks Junes, from Anglesey. ☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

#### By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game McNab -Plaskett, Hastings 1996. Black has an army of central pawns marching down the board but has to deal with the threats to his queen and rook.

about this? Solution on page 33



POOTBALL Klek-oft 3 G unives stated Pools coupon numbers in brackets • danates all-ticket 

Nationwide League First division (10) Charton v Norwich (noon) . . .... (15) Portsmouth v OPA (16) Reading v West Bromwich (noon) (17) Stockport v Port Vale (18) Stoke v Sheffield Utd

(20) Tranmere v Bury ..... (21) Wolverhampton v Oxford Utd UNBOND LEAGUE: Premier division. Camporte-phy Boston; Marine v Winstord. Radottie v Hyde First division: Congleton v Acturi, Matiock, Town v Buddin AUDICI, MALIOS, Town v Buston

PROSEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION:
Premier division: GPT (Coverby) v Covers, Spanse (1) 30)

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Hythe v Follestone Investa (1) 15)

UNLET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Bureas; and the prosecution of the control of the c

dirisione Anunce! e Littlehampron; Burgess 1 HR v Hassocks; Pagham v Selsey (12.0).

(19) Sunderland v Bradford . . . .

Second division
(22) Bournemouth v Gillingham (noon)
(23) Brentiord v Southend (noon)
(24) Bristol City v Mitwell (noon)
(25) Burnley v Chestelleld
(26) Carlisle v Backpool
(27) Luten v Northampton
(28) Plymouth v Futham
(29) Preston v Otchem
(30) Walsalt v Bristol Rovers
(31) Wrecham v Wigan (noon)
(32) Wycombe v Wetlord (1 30)
(33) York v Ginnsby Third division 

(49) Hull v Chester (41) Lincoln v Rotherham (42) Rochdele v Shrewsbury (43) Scunihorpe v Notis County (44) Torquey v Swansee (12.15) Vauxhalf Conference Vaudraff Comerence
(45) Cheltenham v Yeovil (1.0)
(46) Dover v Welling (noon)
(47) Galoshead v Haktox (2.0)
(48) Hednestond v Ketlering ...

— Hereford v Kidderminster (noon)
(49) Leek v Telford .....
(—) Morecambe v Southport .....

 Morecarruse v scoulaput
 Northwich v Staybradge .....
 Pushden & Dtamonds
 v Stevenege ......
 Stough v Hayes ......
 Woking v Famborough ..... Neots: Stamford v M Blackstone INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE (11.0), Bridgnorth v Shitnal T; Chaserown v Peisall V; I leissaworn H v Oldbury, Kings Norton Boldmers SI M; Knypersley V v Rocester, Purshore T v Stradord T; Rushall O v DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Nucceston (170): Bath v

Chy, St Leonerder, Ashford: Worcester City
v Tamworth (11 30) Southern division:
Baldock v Cheimstond, Bazhely v Weymouth: Cavedon v Weston-super-Mare
(11 0) Denford v Enth and Betwedere
(12 0): Fisher London v Pisel T: Newport
AFC v Cindentord (12 0), Newport (10W) v
Fareham (1.0), Tonbridge Angels v Margate
(11.30), Witterbookle v Hewent (12 0),
Witney v Chencester: Yate v Trowbridge,
Midland division: Bedworth v VS Rugby
(11.30), Brackley Town v Raunds (12 0),
Corby v Blesson; Hinckley Uid v Sutton
Coldiseld Town: Moor Green v Redditch
(11.30), Peget R v Solfhul Born (11.30); RC
Wewelk v Evestam; Shapehed D v
Blakendl (12.0); Stoutbridge v Bickon
(11.30), Webech v Grantham (11.30)
EBSEX SENICH LEAGUE Premise division: Bowers v Bazadon U Concord
Rangers v Hulbridge Sports Greet
Waltering v Southerd Manor, Stansled v
Servondgeworth SCHWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Pramier chicken: Bidekord v Barnstaple JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE Premier division: Cleation v Harwch and Parkeston; Fakerham v Watton; Great Yernouth v Gorleston; Tiptree v Helstead JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division. AFC Newbury v Tracham Towns Totton v BAT (12.0), Aerostructurer v Easteleigh (11.0), Bournemouth v Wimborne (10), Romsery v Christchurch (12.0), LHLSPORT LIMITED COUNTIES I FAL UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEA. GUE: Premier division: Eynesbury v SI GUE: Premier division: Eynes Neots: Stamford v M Blackstone

reterryr; sromsgjøre v Helesowen (11.0); Crawley v Hastings, Dorchesie v Sairbuny; Forest Green v Gloucester; Gresley v Buton Albion (11.30) Rothrell v King's Lyre (2.30), Safrigbourne v Cambridge City; St Leonards v Ashford; Worcester City v Tarmworth (11.30) Southern devision; Beldock v Cheimstond, Bashley v Way-month; Cramados v Matatae. Witerhald

EAGUE OF WALES: Aberyshyth of Rhayador Town (2.30); Caemarion v Porthmadog, Caeraws v Newtown (2.30); Fort Town v Cornah's Ouay (11.0); Hearerfordwest v Ebow Vali (2.30); Rhythod v TNS (2.30); SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE. Premier di-SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE, Pramer di-vision: Ballymena v Coleraine, Ctiftonville v Cousaders; Glentoren v Linteld; Portadown v Glensvon, First division: Camob, v Bangor HARP LAGEN NATIONAL LEAGUE RUGBY UNION Altled Dunbar Premiership

> Saracens v Leicester (3.0) Weigh Lasous First division Club metrin Hartlepool Rovers v West Hartlepool (2.0) ... . RUGBY LEAGUE

First divesion

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: ccstor Riders v Leopards (3 0) ICE HOCKEY: Express Cup: Sheffield Steelers v Notingham Parithers (6.30).

Feelherstone v Wakeheld (11,30)... Léeds v Haldex (11,30)...

making the contract.

section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

What is the best way to go

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.20 SUNY BAY.

197. 113143 - 6000 TIMES 13 (8F.F.E.S.) (Max D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 .....

12.40 PERITEMPS CATERING NOVICES HURDLE

1.10 PERTEMPS CITY METWORK FELTRAM MOVICES CHASE (Grade L 922,410; 3m) (7 runners)

and necessive. Sha-fights form (F — left, P — of the D — unusuable vider B — brought of the D — unusuable vider B — brought of the D — others of the D — oth

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

nda, 6-1 Better Offer, 13-2 Serve Ferdinand, Staince, 12-1 Scotlante, 25-1 Monitoe, 23-1

Bengers Moor neck 2nd of 5 to Wise King in sovice class: at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, good). Forest, hony beat Cash Flow, beater a distance in 5-assers moster class at Renger (3m 116yd, good). Forest, hony beat Maybe 10 Seedy 171 in 5-quouer novice class at Renger (3m 116yd, good). Peatisands Flyer beat Manica 2xii in 5-quouer novice class at Nelsor (3m 11, good), previously heat Well Appointed bestiep a distance in 7-quouer novice class at Nelsor (3m 11 10yd, good), beater at the sort of the second of the sort of the second of the sort of the second of the se

FOREST WORK - boar his selline lank so far, but will be hard to been

Shirar Saronic 291 10th of 21 to higher terms in handican hards at Sandesia 23m 110th of 21 to higher terms in handican hards at Sandesia 23m 110th of 21 to higher terms in handican hards at Sandesia 23m 110th growing personally 138 8th of 18 to Cartin Briganic in handicap hards at Sandesia (2m 110th), goody with Charlist and Cartin (2m 110th), goody with Charlist (2m 110th) at Sandesia (2m 110th) at Sandesia

RUNNERS AND RIDERS - SEE LEFT

Luciose (2m, good): previously best John Draman (2h fieter of)

Luciose (2m, good): previously best John Draman (2h fieter of)

71 in 5-camer novice classe at Warnick (2m, good or soit). Later
Carlos best Teamersee Rang range classe at Cameron at Uttonster (2m, soit): previously best
Resonance 25 in 4-camer novice classe at Librositer (2m, soit): previously best
resonance 25 in 4-cameron novice classe at Cameron (2m, soit): with Ambieside 11h better
off) presented class. Ambieside 168 4th of 6 in Stormy Passage is novice classe at Cameron (2m 3/
110)d, soit). Ambieside 168 4th of 6 in Stormy Passage is novice classe at Cameron (2m 3/
110)d, soit). Ambieside 168 4th of 6 in Stormy Passage is novice classe at Cameron (2m 3/
110)d, soit). Ambieside 168 4th of 6 in Stormy Passage is novice classe at Cameron (2m 3/
110)d, soit). Ambieside 168 4th of 6 in Stormy Passage is novice classe at Cameron (2m 3/
110)d, soit). Ambieside 168 4th of 6 in Stormy Passage is novice classe at Cameron (2m 3/
110)d, soit). Ambieside 170 better 170 and 1

.45 HETWORK PERSONNEL RANDICAP HERDLE

METTING 15-4 Theres 11-4 Samue 1-1 James Spring 3-1 Sherr Switten, Commit 10-Kingglold Put, 16-1 Bross No Strint, (ANDE NA METHING 7-10-10 T King (G-4 km) Mits J Charl 4 min

(£6,769; 2m) (8 numers) 301 14560-0 SEVER GROOM 20 (D.E.G) (Sever Dar

2.20 PERTENES TONE CERROE VI CHALE

1.45 Doctoor

COINC COOR TO SOFT

2.20 Rough Quest 2.55 Lake Kariba

RACING: ONE MAN'S SUPREMACY CHALLENGED IN ENTHRALLING CONTEST FOR KING GEORGE

## Kempton script written for the greys

By CHRIS MCGRATH

FOR most punters, the form book has more than enough grey areas as it is. Of the nine horses seeking distinction in the Pertemps King George VI Chase, however, three are greys. Should one of them prove successful at Kempton, of course, he must also compete with the spectral Desert Orchid, four times a winner there in Christmas past.

Such comparisons ensure that even the best horses, the best performances, are always prey to ambivalence. Few champions, certainly, can have been received so equivocally as One Man, himself seeking a third consecutive

King George on Friday. No matter that he has, with clinical dispatch, won 15 of his 19 completed races; nor that he has routed, repeatedly and irrepressibly, the most pugna-

#### RICHARD EVANS

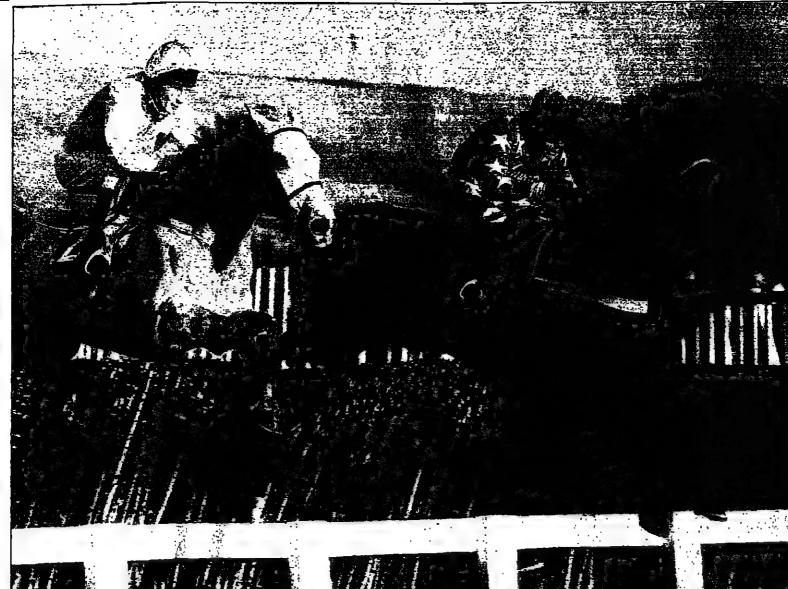
Nap: Solsgirth (3.10 Ayr) Solsgirth's two successes have both come at Ayr and the form of his chasing debut victory last time has worked out well. Open to further improvement, he can beat Master Bayard at

Next best: Miss Diskin (3.00 Newton Abbot)

cious rivals to be found in these islands — Mr Mulligan, the subsequent Gold Cup winner, was beaten when falling here 12 months ago, while this season One Man has already beaten Barton Bank and Viking Flagship. in the betting. he is a warm favourite once again. Yet there are those who only have eyes for his imperfections.

For his athletic, swaggering style is menaced by intimations of fragility. As soon as he comes off the bridle, he falters. His record shows what he can do on it — but he has, somehow, also contrived to be accused of downright coward-

It is, notionally, the hill that finds him out at Cheltenham. The fact that he went on to break a blood vessel at Aintree, after his latest Gold Cun failure, offers an alternative insight. Such horses go



The grey One Man and Barton Bank do battle again in the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day. Photograph: Hugh Rouffedge

best fresh, and he has never sustained his brilliance into the spring. Kempton on Boxing Day should duly be treated as the occasion to celebrate his authentic champion quality. The sharp, flat track caters ideally for his zest.

He should, after all, mean a lot to National Hunt folk simply for what — or who represents. Originally trained by the late Arthur Stephenson, One Man has reached fulfilment in the care of his sage companion, Gordon Richards.

The horse emerges in subur-

bia from that Cumbrian fastness, Greystoke, like some marauding, shimmering creature of myth. The men who preserved his frantic energies have done so with their own shrewd brand of austere,

By contrast, the grey who has emerged as his market rival is an old-fashioned, staunch chaser whose trainer. the Lambourn-based Charlie Brooks, is a vivacious member of a new generation. Suny Bay, so impressive in the Hennessy Gold Cup, will enjoy testing conditions in what

patient discipline.

is very much a home game for One Man.

Sadly, such going would rule out the third grey, Senor El Betrutti, who has preserved the sport's romance with big Cheltenham wins for the three-horse Cotswold stable of Susan Nock. If the ground were to fall neutrally between them, however, the pattern of the race would be vividly predictable.

Barton Bank - the old stalwart who should have won this race twice, but for a cruel last-fence fall three years ago - races in the van; so must Senor El Betrutti. While Graham Bradley does not believe it essential for Suny Bay to be up there as well, he can scarcely be ridden for toe. One Man can settle just off the pace, but he, too, most enjoys an unrestrained cut at his fences. They will surely go off at such a pace that the faint of

Those with a turn of foot will correspondingly well served. Rough Quest, the 1996 Grand National winner who broke down after racing on fast ground here last year.

heart must cravenly fold.

comeback at Haydock the other day. His trademark, exemplified at Aintree, is to pounce off a strong pace.

By the same token, it is easy to envisage a big run from Challenger Du Luc, albeit that he has betrayed himself as not so much half-hearted as quarter-hearted. He may be enjoined to run into a place, if not actually to leave the very last of his chums behind.

Both, however, must address an urgent shortcoming For there is no room in the script for anything so unseasonal as a brown or bay horse.

#### shaped encouragingly on his

FORM GUIDE TO THE NINE CONTENDERS

2.20 PERTEMPS KING GEORGE VI CHASE (Grade I: £60,980; 3m) (9 runners)

451 221F-22 BARTON BANK 27 (CO.F.G.S) (Mrs. J. Mostel) D. Nicholson 11-71-10 ..... A. Massare 186 402 154-222 CHALLENGER OU LUC 13 (E.F.S.S) (D Johnson) M Pipe 7-11-10 \_ A P Mesoy 179 

**BIG RACE LINE-UP** 

BETTRAS, 5-4 One Main 9-4 Suny Bay, 5-1 Barton Bank, 6-1 Rough Cuest, 16-1 Chaileagar De Luc, See Main Suprocci (35<sub>4</sub>) Serge () Berhain (60-1 Cheddain 66-1 Yorkshing Gale 1996: ONE MAN 8-11-10 R Dumroody (8-13 tor) & Richards 5 ras

HEREFORD

12:35 Shore Party. 1.05 Fitzmaurice. 1.35 Weather Wise. 2.05 Raphael Bodine. 2.35 Lord Nitrogen. 3.05 Freddie Muck. 3.35 Studio Thirty.

5-2 Order Party, 3-1 Sassa Deligita, 7-2 The Full Medity, 5-1 Builder Boy, 8-1 Go Briesmas, 12-1 Maches, 16-1 offers

1 PS DRAMA RING 6 B Limits 9-10-12
3 PS DRAMA RING 6 B Limits 9-10-12
4 GOS TITUDAR/RICE 20 C Excels 5-10-12
5 GSOU HEARY RIDOR 104 A James 5-10-12
6 GSOU HEARY RIDOR 104 A James 5-10-12
7 DO LATCHFORD 21 Wilders 5-10-12
8 PS JUL 70 18 W Jestic 8-10-12
9 SI LEGIS 20 PS Almes 5-10-12
10 USG 1 PS LAMERINE 9 Mr. 1 Wilderson 5-10-12
11 SHAMP PROGRESS 35F A P JOSES 4-10-12
12 GS PLEME GELL 30 H Home 6-10-12
13 412- THE VELIACE WAY 279 (3) Mr. V Wilders 6-10-12
14 BUSS OF MAY 11 mode 7-10-1
15 GOS PROGRESS 25F A SECTION 6-10-12
16 MR. CARREST ROSE 26 M SECTION 7-10-7
17 GOS PROGRESS 25F A SECTION 7-10-7
18 MR. OF MAY 11 mode 7-10-7
19 GOS PROGRESS 25F A SECTION 7-10-7
19 GOS

7-4 Fitzmanica, 2-1 The Wilson Way, 6-1 Leo Gale, 10-1 Fighting Times, Charp Progress, 12-1 Laborat 14-1 Drawn Fing, 16-1 Others

1. (7/2 STT. 27) (8)

1. 34-6 STAR PERFORMER 137 (BF.G) F Jordan 6-12-0 R Hodges (7)

2. PSPF ST MELLION LESSINE 15 AF IT Howards 5-11-0 L Communic (5)

3. 6120 WRATHER WISE 4 48-G W G M Tome 5-10-11 JR Kancangha

4. DOSP VAN DEL GUARTHO 77 (G) J Mobiles 5-10-0 ... J Carboly

5. SS34 JIST FOR A REASON 22 (G) R Jorder 5-10-0 ... Mr 0 MePhali (7)

6. FOR PORTIOLAND 71 B Early 6-10-0 ... Gry Lipses

7. DSP GEREN MINE 22 (G) A F Jordes 5-10-1 ... S Newhold

8. CP40 THE CHEESE BARON 11.5 MeMor 6-10-0 ... C Westo (5)

2-1 Via Del Ossero, 7-2 Just For A Resson, 4-1 Western Wise, 9-2 Star Performe, 5-7 St Methon Lescore, 12-1 Green King, 14-1 The Cheese Barrat, 50-1 Portoland

**COURSE SPECIALISTS** 

TRANSERS: Miss V Williams 5 etimen; from 10 minutes, 50 0% to Headerson 15 from 33, 45 5%, 11 Tenston-Davier, 26 from 103, 27 2%, 0 Technison, 10 from 57, 27 0%, C Brooks, 4 trops 18, 22.2%, 8 Africa, 8 from 43, 18 6%

1,35 MINCE PIE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE

J Callety
Mr J L Llowellyn
V Statery
S McNail

GOING GOOD TO SOFT

12.35 GOOSE NOVICES HURDLE

(Div | £2 178: 2m 3f 110yd) (16 ranners)

1.05 GOOSE NOVICES HURDLE

BALIOS 5235 Y/ G M Turner 4-10-12 P5 DRAMA NING 6 B Lieneryn 5-10-12

(Div II- £2.164 2m 3f 110yd) (16)

(£1,772: 3m 2f) (8)

BARTON BANK 13I 2nd of 14 to Suny Bey (5lb worse off) in grade if hendicap chase at Newbury (3m 2f 110yd, good to soft) with Djeddah (17lb worse off) pulled up 4 out and Yorkshire Gale (23lb worse off) pulled up 2 out; previously 2hl 2nd of 4 to One Man (levels) in grade if chase at Wetherby (3m 1f, good to firm); previously fell in grade if handicap chase at Sandown (3m 5f 110yd, good to act); previously best Meny Gale 9l in 5-runner grade if chase at Aintree (3m 1f, good) with Challenger Du Luc (levels) 12I 4th and One Man (8b better off) pulled up.

Betrutti (8b worse off) in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5t, good); previously neck 2nd of 4 to Cellisce Bay in handicap chase at Newbury (2m 4t, good to soft); previously 31 2nd of 9 to Senor El Betrutti (9to worse off) in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 4t 110yd, good).

DJEDDAH pulled up in grade III handicap chase at Newbury (3m 2f 110yd, good to soft) with Yorkshire Gate (6lb worse off) pulled up; previously 10 i 5th of 13 to Mermont in chase at Auteur (2m 7f 110yd, good to soft); previously 10 98th of 17 to Tideliosk in hurdle at Auteur (2m 3f 110yd, good).

2.05 TOTE NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (\$3,581; 2m 3f) (10)

2.35 HUGHES CATERERS HANDICAP HURDLE

5-2 Secret Girt, 9-2 Snowchill States, 11-2 Stores Tager, 6-1 Lord Natrogen, 13-2 Caracol, 7-7 High Low, 10-7 Valent, 14-1 others.

3.05 PLUM PUDDING NOVICES CHASE

1 41-0 BALLYDOUGAN 8 (V.D.S] R VERTEN 9-11-6 ... 2 6-13 SPEARNEAD AGAIN 55 (BF,G) Life: V Williams 8-11-5

7 . SG- PROWN 258 (S) P Sower 7-19-12 ... JR Kass 8 PPF5 JEMARO 18 W Jobs 6-10-12 ... Gary L 9 4-BP ORPHIN SPA 8 G NicCoot 6-10-12 ... D.J.M

11 -6P5 COUNTRY STORE 20 (S) A P Jone, 3-10-7 S Michell 12 4-64 HOPPERDANTE 32 (S) T George 7-10-7 Mr 0 McPhall (7) 7-4 Fresche Much 7-4 Southead Agast 6-1 Bagains 8-1 Hopperdante, 10-2 Editionan, 12-1 First Hewest, Country Store 16-1 others

3.35 BLAKINFORD BETTING NOVICES HANDICAP

3-1 Depart Storm, 7-2 Stage Of Song, States Trany, 5-1 Mary See, 7-1 Departs, 2012 Red Bartery, 2017 Restraint Office States

16 PP-P OVER THE WIREOUT 21 (B) 1 R Hughes 16-10-12

(£3,368, 3m 1f 110yd) (12)

**HURDLE** (£2,934. 2m 11) (12)

(£2,970: 2m 3f 110yd) (14)

ONE MAN best Vising Flagehip 9I in 6-runner grade il chase at Huntingdon (2m 4f 110yd, good); previously best Berton Bank (levels) 2½ in 4-runner grade il chase at Wetherby (3m 1f, good to firm); previously pulled up in grade il chase at Aintres (3m 1f, good); previously 35I 6th of 14 to Mr Mulligan in grade I Gold Cup at Cheltenham (3m 2f 110yd, good).

ROUGH QUEST 6! 2nd of 4 to The Grey Monk in notices dues to 2nd or 4 to 1m dray mork in chase at Haydock (2m, good to soft); previously 12! 2nd of 5 to One Man (levels) in grade I King George VI Chase at Kemptorr (3m, good to limit) with Berton Benk (levels) 21! 3nd; previously beat Destin D'Estuval VII in 14-runner novice hundle at Folkestone (2m 4f 110yd, good); previously beat Encore Un Pau 11/1 in 27-runner grade Iti Grand National at Allettee (4m 4f code) National et Aintree (4m 41, good).

SEE MORE BUSINESS bent Indian Tracker 41 in 8see morte grade if handcap chase at Chepstow (3m, soft); previously 181 3rd of 10 to Surry Bey (2fb worse off) in handicap chase at Haydock (3m, good); previously tell in grade III handicap chase at Kempton (3m, good to soft); previously 6f 2nd of 4 to Dozans Pride in grade II novice chase at Leopardstown (2m 5f, good). SENOR EL BETRUTTI best Challenger Du Luc (6b better off) 8 in 9-runner handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5i, good); previously best Cheltenham (2m 5i, good); previously best Cheltenham (2m 4i 110yd, good); previously 15i 2nd of 3 to Simply Dashing in handicap chase at Wetherby (2m 4i 110yd, good); previously 15i 2nd of 3 to Simply Dashing in handicap chase at Wetherby (2m 4i 110yd, good) to fire

SUNY BAY best Berton Senk (50 better off, 13) in 14-rumer grade ill hendicap chase at Newbury (5m; 2f 110yd, good to soft with Djeddah (12b worse off) pulled up and Yorkshire Gale (18b worse off) pulled up; previously best General Wolfe 11) in 10-rumer handicap chase at Haydock (3m, good) with See More Business (2b better off) 18 3rd; previously 251 2nd of 36 to Lord Gyllene In-grade (if) Grand Nationel at Aintres (4m 4f, good); previously best into The Red 19f in 5-rumer grade (if handicap chase at Haydock (3m 4f 110yd, good).

YORKSHIRE GALE best Stommacker 241 in 5-runner handicap chase at Chellenham (3m : 1f 110yd, good); previously pulled up in grade it handicap chase at Newbury (3m 2f 110yd, good to soft); previously felf in grade till handicap chase at Sandown (3m 5f 110yd, good to soft).

#### CHALLENGER DU LUC 8 2nd of 9 to Senor El

J Cullaty

1995 Bullion (1995)

### HUNTAVELER

THUNDERER 12.30 Dominos Ring, 1.00 Gerethson, 1.30 The Brewer, 2.00 Gerns Lad. 2.30 Edmond, 3.00 Ferwick's Brother, 3.30 Melton Mede.

(23,581: 2m 31) (10)

1 2-51 WAYFARERS WAY 15 (G,S) N Harderson 6-11-10 IN Kneamagh
2 34P PAPHARERS WAY 15 (G,S) N Harderson 6-11-10 IN Kneamagh
3 32U- SUPER RITCHART 304 (B,S) B Pating 9-11-4 ... 0 J Mediat
4 78-0 PURBECK CAVALIER 29 (S) R Alex 6-10-17 Mir J D Moore (7)
6 241 WINNOW 15 (D,S) J Bradley 7-10-11 ... X Argans (5)
6 241 WINNOW 15 (D,S) MSS H Knept 7-10-4 ... J Carloty
7 09-0 THE CROCKED DAK 22 N Invitan-Davies 3-10-1 ... T Jentes
8 452 SERGE OF VALUE 21 (F,S) J Smith 8-10-0 Mir 0 Method (7)
9 2431 CANT SAY 6 (S) J Bradley 5-10-0 (Fail ... S Wyone
10 0-40 DESERT CAUM 17 (B) 0 NcClare 8-10-0 ... Y Statery
7-4 Waytarcs Way, S-1 Warnow, Cant Say, 8-1 Bold Ace: 10-1 Pathack Cavaler
Sense Of Valor, 12-1 Papharel Bodine, Super Extent 14-1 offers 12.30 CHRISTMAS TIDE NOVICES CHASE

1.00 CHRISTMAS TIDE MOVICES CHASE (Drv II: £2,676: 2m 4t 110yd) (10)

\*1-4 Marcs 7-2 Geoffsson, 4-1 Geograp 5-1 Occold, 6-1 Shadrach, 10-1 Sector: 25-\* Ordge End. Summer Villa, 25-1 others

1.30 CHRISTMAS BOX HANDICAP HURDLE (52,245: 2m 5f 110yd) (14)

12.2407: 207 34 1 1090) (149)
1 61- RING FOR ROSE 244 (G) T Forster 6-11-10 \_\_\_\_\_\_ JF Tiday
2 3711 THE SPEWER 52 6-0.53 J Tach 3-11-9 \_\_\_\_\_\_ 8 Belliamy
3 44-8 MORTHERN STAR 15 (60.5) Mass J Wormall 6-11-5 R Thouston
4 252 MISS BRECONEL 11 May 1 Primare 6-11-1 \_\_\_\_\_ D Leaby
5 PPP SARELY BLACK 17 (S) TI Belliamy 9-11-0 \_\_\_\_ M Keighly (7)
6 54-7 CODER WINE 15 (0.5) May 1 Chicago 9-11-0 \_\_\_\_ M Keighly (7)
7 50-1 EPREST WILLIAM 11 (C) G Mattern 5-10-10 (7eq
Michael Brennan (3) 2 44-0 MASTER DANGER 22 (F,0) Nice G Dyran 10-10-9 2 44-0 MASTER DANCER 22 (F.0) Mic. G Dyson 10-10-9
9 2S3P DON'T TELL TOM 23 (B) H Hapne, 7-10-9
1 A McCapty
10 40-0 WARNSTRAD 11 (N) J. Indices 5-10-6
11 60-6 LIME STREET RUBES 8 T Leony 6-10-5
12 P-4P. CAMBO 8 (D.F.G.S) M Banks 11-10-4
13 4225 SUGNITLY SPECIAL 41 (6) D Thom 5-10-3
14 725 EMPLOYER 477 (V.C.P.) Mic L James 9-10-0
W McGarbood
15 Pages 6-1 Kin E. Barr Fall Mich 20 10-10-10
W McGarbood
17 Pages 6-1 Kin E. Barr Fall Mich 20 10-10
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COURSE SPECIALISTS TRANSPIRS: A Farctione 6 means from 11 means, 54.5%, A Bailey, 25 from 75 34.7% D Nicholann, 15 from 57, 26.3%, D Gerdello, 8 from 32, 24.2%, Mrs. J Primer, 10 from 44, 22.7%, J Gillert, 17 from 78, 21.2%

JOCKETS R Thomban, 5 wenders from 15 refer, 33.3% Michael Barrian, 3 for "12, 25 OK; J McCartley, 6 from 38, 15 SM, J Teley, 5 from 32, 15 SM, R Massary, 3 from 22, 13 SM; L Aspelt, 3 from 29, "33%

11-4 The Street, G-1 Ring For Roser Enters William, 7-1 Miss Bredwell Cambo. 5-7 Signity Special 10-1 Dan't Tell Ton, Love Street Blues, 75-1 others.

2.00 BEDFORD LODGE HOTEL HANDICAP CHASE

1 -212 GEMS LAD 183 (BFF.63) Mrs 5 Smith 10-11-45 ... M Richinda 2 1-34 OCEAN LEADER 31 (D.F.G) Mrs D Haise 10-11-10 ... A F Thomps 3 /21- SCANE DAY SCON 434 67 M Businest 12-11-8 ... A Thompson 4 R514 MRS LEANE 15 (D.D.S.) A H Brown 7-11-6 ... J A MICHAEL 5 MRS- STAKE PLAYER 217 (D.F.R.S) Mrs C Come 11-10-11

### SUMP SUMP FOR BUTTERS WER COME 11-10-11

(1-common file of the common file of the com 7-2 Gens, Lant, 9-2 Ocean Lender, 11-2 Mark Statement, 6-1 High Lenne, 7-1 Some Der Sone, 8-1 Kassasskap, 10-1 Yapon Baldne, 12-1 offices.

2.30 FESTIVE SPIRST NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (52,583: 3m 2i) (15) 14 4-50 ARDISHBAR 31 J W Proce 5-10-7 \_\_\_\_\_ Michael Britton (3) 15 351- SPERGER WEW 200P (F.G.S) Min H Mighley 11-10-7 M Richards 5-2 Edistand, 7-2 Pole Ridge, 5-1 Binney HE Lad, 7-1 Memberd, 8-1 Quits Lively, 16-1 Comp Rose, Richey Wester, 20-1 school.

3.00 BOXING DAY HANDICAP CHASE

2-0-057. 281 11-09) (0)

1 11-0 PESSAM BLITE B7 (BF.F.B) C Egeston 5-12-0 J A McCarlay
2 4311 ALBLANN BOY 17 60.F.B) 1 Williams 10-11-2 B Thorston
3 F1- SEE-ASSY 212 (D.F.) 10 Theat 6-11-2 S Content
4 2-14F ASSOLUTE (DMT 15 (F.) I Gibbs 5-10-3 L Appel (5)
5 25-P MANA 31 (D.S) R Phalics 7-10-5 D Leaby
1 10-050 UNITY O THANDOS 37 (0.F.R) May 3 Gold 9-70-7 S CORROLL
F PAGE TOWARD S BRUTCHER 8 (F) May 5 Gold 9-70-7 S CORROLL
F PAGE TOWARD S BRUTCHER 8 (F) May 5 Gold 9-70-7 S REPORTED 10 (F) MAY 5 GOLD 10 (F) MAY 5 R Wildram (5)

8 465- ALCONE 462 6 Johnson Rossphun 8-10-0 Michael Scenar (5) 7.4 Anhum Boy, 3-1 Festive V. Brother T-2 Perstan Ellin, 5-1 Stotzny, 12-1 Day: Of Dender, 25-1 Abguite Lind, Acove, 33-1 Mahla.

3.30 METTLETDE STANDARD OPEN MATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,508: 2m 110yd) (19)

FLAT RACE (£1,508: 2m 110yd) (19)

AMERICAN STYLE Mrs I fields 5-11-4 R Boltony
D-COLTRACANG 230 M Brotistach 5-11-4 S GERGAT
GO-OMASSON H Bibboys 4-11-4 L Appel (3)
MALK M Washingon 6-11-4 G Barda (7)
LECTOR MADE 230 Mrs D Harres 5-11-4 J F Tilary
D-LECTOR MADE 230 G Hostord 4-11-4 Michael Brotista (1)
HELTOR MADE 230 G Hostord 4-11-4 Michael Brotista (1)
REMANDER M BERSTON 5-11-4 Mrs. Philosopher (1)
REMANDE MOTER P Hadger 4-11-4 Mrs. Mrs. Philosopher (1)
REMANDE ORIGIN 1-1 Mrs. Philosopher 4-11-4 R Theoretical SEVEN O SEVEN P Compil 4-11-4 R Theoretical SUMMULGUE II Shermond 5-17-4 J A McCarthy
SACHIL RAMERER 222 (87) D Nichaban 4-10-1 Mr P Congrame (7)
Mr P Congrame (7)
Mr J Septem (7)
Mrs. I Septem (

DAMES HANDER (22) (IP) D NICHORON 4-10-13

DOTAMARKAN MAS S Study 5-10-13

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DE J Samith (7)

SINGH (8)

S NICH S STUDY 5-10-13

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MY STUDY 6-10-10

S TUTE (8)

S TUTE (8)

THE CAPTURES LIOU 27 D Nichology 5-10-13

R Minney (2) 5-2 Servengen, 7-f in The Van, The Capter's Lady 8-7 Jel Spece 12-7 Selbord Comp. 14-7 Market March Terraing Theor, 16-8 others.

LAKE KARIBA loves soft ground and can continue his winning sequence. 3.25 PERTEMPS DESIGNER HANDICAP HURDLE (£6,827: 3m 110yd) (6 runners)

| 221-111 DARAYOAN 13 (F.S.S) (D. Johnson) M. Pipe 6-17-10 A. P. MicCay 4115-11 PRENISHE 20 (C.S.S) (T. Brailled, W. Brand) B. Handeson 5-10-5 M. A. Piperol 1989 1144-04 BALE DERRIES 24 (D.F.S.S) (Ms. V. Sockhide) M. Treidon-Braics 7-10-3 C. Lienellyn 187-188 2412-25 CLETOM SET 21 (B.F.C.F.G.S) (Ms. C. Francil) C. Mars 6-10-0 D. Bedgerolt 182-25 CLETOM SET 21 (B.F.C.F.G.S) (Ms. C. Francil) C. Mars 6-10-0 D. Bedgerolt 182-25 (B.F.C.F.G.S) (T. Mail) M. Pipe 6-10-0 D. Hotshiro 4-10-0 A. Minguel 147-25 (B.F.C.F.G.S) (T. Mail) M. Pipe 6-10-0 D. Gallegien 132-25 (B.F.C.F.G.S.) (T. Mail) M. Pipe 6-10-0 D.

Long hundicase Cition Set 9-12, Toly Brown 9-9, Decyloog 9-3.

SETTINE: 11-8 Decycles, 5-2 Februship, 11-2 Toly Brown, 8-1 Hulle Darling, 10-1 Cition Set, 12-1 Sections. 1896: TIM 6-10-8 M A Pizgerald (7-2) J Jerátza 5 mm

Daraydan heat Mighthy Mess 4t in 4-renner hardle at Chellecharer (2m 4f, good); previously best Occold 8t in 3-renner hardle at Reviewy (2m 5f, good to farm). Priendship best four's Fhaller 13f in 12-renner hardless hardle at Sentourn (2m 6f, good to soit); previously best four's Fhaller 13f in 12-renner hardless hardle at Sentourn (2m 6f, good to soit); previously best forceing 8t in 3-renner hardless hardle at Sentourn (2m 5f, good to soit). Clinn Set 14t 3rd 6f 7 to Marinoid Castle in hardless hardle at Sento (2m, 7t 110pd, soit); previously 177 2nd of 6 to Marin Of Our Father in hardless hardle at Chellecham (3m 110pd, good); previously 87 and of 5 to Sentously 87 and 15 to Se

FRIENDSHIP remains open to Improvement and should appreciate this longer trip

TRAINERS   Miles   M	-		COUR	SE SI	PECIALISTS	vē "vili	
Common   E   37.5 R Durwoody		Mrs & Parett F Downer P Webber W Common	3 II 4 10 4 10 5 14	40.0 48.0 37.5 35.7	A Magake A Barrion M A Fitagerald R Durwoody A P MisCov	26 99 5 19 20 110 17 190 9 65	% 26.3 26.3 18.2 17.0 13.5

TRAINERS PREFERENCES 1st preference 3.30 Newton Abbot

2nd preference AMBLESIDE 2.55 Kempton Park COTTAGE CRAFT DON'T TELL TOM HAM N'ESGS 12 45 Welherby 1.30 Huntingdon 1 15 Wetherby 2.55 Kempton Park 2.05 Market Rasen 3.35 Hereford KADASTROF 1.25 Ayr 1.15 Wetherby LIME STREET BLUES 1.30 Huntingdon 3.35 Market Rasen 1.55 Newton Abbot 3.30 Newton Abbot 2.35 Heretord 3.25 Wetherby PEARL'S CHOICE ROBINS PRIDE 1.00 Market Rasen 1.20 Wincanton 1.00 Market Plasen . 2.35 Hereford

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2.40 DENTAL C

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RACING

## **Forest Ivory** to continue winning ways

KEMPTON PARK CHANNEL 4

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1.10: Forest Ivory was the best of these by some way over hurdles and it looks as though David Nicholson's well regarded New Zealand-bred could be even better over fences. Since being stepped up to three miles, his jumping has improved and the form of his latest success at Bangor was boosted when the runner-up. Cash Flow, beat Spring Gale at Doncaster, Fiddling The Facts made a successful debut over fences at Lingfield when defeating Ottowa (who previously beat Eulogy at Worces-



Nicholson: fine chance

ter) and she should confirm the placings on 7lb worse terms. The biggest danger could be Bengers Moor, winner of three point-to-points, who made an encouraging chasing debut behind Wise King at Sandown and is entitled to improve for the run.

1.45: Secret Spring, a winner on the Flat last season and beaten only three lengths in the Cambridgeshire, is sure to attract support, having won here over course and distance. Although not disgraced on soft ground on his hurdling debut, his best performances have



surface. With a strong pace likely to be set by the iront-running Noble Colours, this could be too much of a stamina test. Kingsfold Pet, sharper for a run over fences behind Kadastrof, is well handicapped on his form of two years ago and is a confirmed mudlark. The Lady Herries-trained Tibetan has obvious claims after completing a double at Cheltenham when setting the better of Barns Boy. That form should give the in-form Nicky Henderson a clue as to the chances of Serenus, who won comfortably at Huntingdon on his seasonal reappearance despite looking backward, Gelded since last season, he is open to further improvement.

2.20: see facing page

2.55: With Zabadi proving a shade disappointing, this looks to be a match between Kadastrof and Lake Kariba. Both love the mud, but preference is for Lake Kariba, who had little more than a schooling session when winning at Uttoxeter last Saturday. The Paul Nicholis-trained runner had been a few kilos overweight so should be spot on here. Kadastrof had to work quite hard to beat Charming Girl on ground which was arguably too lively at Ludlow last time and is better judged on his course and distance success here in November.

RICHARD EVANS

### Linton Rocks can go one better

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

GLAMOUR and glory may be pearance behind Noisy Miner on offer at Kempton on Boxing Day — but the punters' profit is more likely to be found by sieving through more than 50 races being staged at nine

other meetings.
At Wincanton, Paul
Nicholls is hopeful of landing
the Lord Stalbridge Memorial Gold Cup (3.00) with Linton Rocks. The winner of novice races at Newbury and Punchestown last spring, the eight-year-old was having his first race for four months since switching yards when finishing a good second to Oatis Regrets at Sandown. All the sharper for that run, he can go

one better, On the same card, Morstock looks well handicapped despite carrying top weight in the Harry Dufosee Handicap Chase (1.20). Placed behind Ashwell Boy and Northern Starlight in the auturnn, the Ron Hodges-trained chaser is in good form at home and ideally suited by the fast Wincanton track. Storm Run

is the main danger.

Dana Point benefited from the longer trip at Doncaster recently when winning easily by five lengths from Jackson Park and looks capable of following up off a 9lb higher mark at Market Rasen in the Roseland Group Kilvington Handicap Hurdle (2.35).

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After a slow start to the season. Tim Forster's string has struck form and he can keep up the good work at Huntingdon. Edmond was second on his seasonal reap-

GOING GOOD TO SOFT

LEOPARDSTOWN'S BIG RACES

**1.30 DENNY JUVENILE HURDL**E (Grade II: 3-Y-0: £9,675: 2m) (9 runners)

UENNY JUVENILE INCHES (STACE III 3-1-U. 129,013; 2m) (STUMERS)

1111 RAMBONY FRONTIER 27 (D.S) (Check of Gold Syndroma) A P D'Bhen 11-D . C. F. Swent

F134 ASTROLUMES 19 (D.S) (May 1 Edwar) A Pundargast 10-9 . J. Shorn

F353 BEALSSH BOY 19 (May V Cou.) D. Hernby 10-9 . T. P. Timaky

DAFIR KESTREL 468F (Alber The Storm Syndroma) G. Hourigan 10-9 . D.J. Casey

KHARABARA 19 (D.S) (J. Mokanus) C Roche 10-9 . C. D'Donyse

MORABOE 67 F (D. Stratey) in Macch 10-9 . Be R. Walach

15 SCISS 19 (D.S) (M. Ryan) T Watch 10-9 . Be R. Walach

25 HAMAMELIS 40 (D.S) (-and S. Laesco) in J.D'Bhen 10-4 . In Williams

16 SCISS 19 (D.S) (M. Byan) T Watch 10-9 . In Macchine 1-1 (Macchine 1-1 Cannody 10-4 . In Williams 10-1 . In Macchine 1-1 (Jacobson 1-1 Jacobson 1-1 Jaco

BETTING, 6-4 Manager 3-1 Rambow Frontier 13-2 Harrametes 7-1 Momadic, 8-1 Keeping The Faith 10-1 Sees, 14-1 Bearnuth Boy, 16-1 others 1996" GRIMES 10-9 C O'Dever (9-1) C Roche 16 rae

DETIGNE: 13-5 PM Scorery 9-4 Grey Gray, 6-1 Space Trucker 8-1 Magned Lady 10-1 Good Performance, 14-1 Cartico, 16-1 Bathy Magned I, 20-1 others.

1996: DANOLI 8-11-6 I P Treaty (5-2 4-by) I Faley 9 ran

2.40 DENNY GOLD MEDAL NOVICE CHASE

(Grade | 522,750: 2m 1l) (10 runners)

at Chepstow before falling late on when a clear second to Strong Tel at the Welsh track. Those efforts represent better form than anything else on offer in the Festive Spirit

Novices' Hurdle (2.30). In the opening Christmas Tide Novices' Chase (12.30). Music Therapy makes his debut over fences after finishing runner-up to the useful Lord Of The River at Windsor. A full brother to Suny Bay, he looks every inch a chaser and

could be above average. New Inn is fairly treated at the weights in the St John Ambulance Handicap Hurdle at Wetherby (1.50), but all his best form form has been on good or faster ground. Dr Bones showed improved form when beating Nigel's Lad and No More Hassle over course and distance earlier this month and Ferdy Murphy's

runner is preferred. Colonel In Chief has been entered for a host of races recently but takes his chance in the Rowland Meyrick Handicap Chase (2.25) where Sparky Gayle heads the weights. Gordon Richards rates this young chaser who made a pleasing reappearance behind Strath Royal recently and he can take advantage of the weight concession from his

rivals. Provided Newton Abbot passes a stewards' inspection, the Bob Buckler-trained Miss Diskin looks worth supporting in the Langstone Cliff Hotel Handicap Chase (3.00).

C F Setzer

### C Maude R Greene P Hote 9-4 Petter Apair IS-1 Dersy in 1 Just Jacobson IS-1 Norschallig IS-1 Derse North Northern Trea 10-1 Artern Blade (4-1-genera 1.20 HARRY DUFOSEE HANDICAP CHASE [2.5.0.20, ZIII] (6) 1 6-32 MORSTOCK 62 (0.6) R Hodges [1-11-10] 2 3-25 CLEFOR GAME 37 B MORSTOCK 7-11-5 3 -1FF 5TORM RAIN 34 (0.F.6, 5) P Nedect 7-11-5 5 2814 WHO'S TO SAY 30 (6F 0.F.6, 5) Or P Product 11-1(-1) 6 32-6 MORDIC VALLEY 196 (0.F.6, 5) M Pgs 6-10-10 7 4-62 TROUNALLEY (0.F) A Turnel 6-10-2 6 PGS ROBBIS PROSE 11 (0.6, 5) C Pysters 7-10-7 7-4 Somm Rob 5-1 Morstoch, 6-7 Nodec 18-99; 7-1 Troundle Register 10-1 Claims Same The Carte 18-9; 10-1 To Say 1.55 MID SEASON CHASE (£7,068: 2m 5f) (7)

WINCANTON

12.50 Just Jasmine 1.20 Robins Pride 1.50 Glider Isle. 2.30 None Surred, 3.00 Jultara, 3.30 Bet Wittshire.

12.50 FATHER CHRISTMAS MARES DNLY

NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE

(£2,500 2m) (13 runners)

THUNDERER

GOING: GOOD

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1 1000 STATELY HOME 34 (D F B) F Berein 6-11-12 A JUDICION 2 1121 NORTHERN STARLISH 115 (D F G.S) M Pag 6-11-6 C Marche 1121 NORTHERN STARLISH 115 (D F G.S) M Pag 6-11-6 C Marche 1136 GUITTER ISLE 289 (S) J Library 5-11-4 Philips 1136 GUITTER ISLE 289 (S) J Library 5-11-4 Philips 1136 GUITTER ISLE 289 (S) J Library 5-11-4 Philips 1136 GUITTER ISLE 289 (S) J Library 5-11-4 Philips 1136 GUITTER ISLE 289 (S) J Marchen 6-11-12 Philips 1136 GUITTER ISLE 289 (S) J MARCHEN PHILIPS 1136 (S) Philips 1136 GUITTER ISLE 289 (S) Philips 1136 GUI

5-4 Monthern Startight, 9-2 Stately Home: Around The Game 6-1 Games are 13-2 Ambon, 25-1 Koo's Propriety 33-1 Wayyan's King

12.30 Oskbury. 1.00 Bassenhally. 1,35 Cats Run. 2,05 Colour Code. 2,35 Dana Point. 3,05 Non Vintage, 3.35 Lord Hestie.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

12.30 MISTLETOE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,590, 2m 1l 110yd) (9 runners) 1.390. 231 11 11 19VJ (\$10mlets)

1.190. LBCY TLETY 157 (CD,F.G) J Penres 5-11-10 J Ryan

2. PO-4. TDULSTON LACY 16 (F) J Whorksn 5-11-6 R. Sechiadre (7)

3. CO23. THOMAS CROWN 15 M R Boskey 5-11-6 R. Sechiadre (7)

4. O-30. AFRICAN SISM 33 M CAspman 4-11-3 Mer X R O'Ryan (7)

6. CO23. OAKERY 14 (FD.G) Mes J. Sechial 5-11-2 J Secisial (7)

7. SO40. BRANDON BRIBES 15 D Graphy 5-10-6 J Mage (7)

8. 4-OP CREPALATA 18 T Dornelly 4-10-3 J Supple

9. CO-P. TUDOR FALCON 29 (8) Planting 4-10-3 D Planter

1-4 Debauer, 7-2 Testison Lake 5-1 Jun. 16th Thomas Comm. 11-3 Mage 11-4 Debbury, 7-2 Touision Laby, 5-1 Lucy Tudy Thomas Crown, 31-2 Abusan Sun, 12-1 Bassm, Brandon Bridge, 25-1 piners

1.00 BRUCE & JOE CARR MEMORIAL TROPHY NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,435: 3m 1) (10)
1 B-F1 BASSENHALLY 34 (CD.G.S) Mrs P Sty 7-11-11 W Merston 2 40-4 EASY BREEZY 10 C Mars 7-11-9
4 F-34 BE BRANE 8 (B) T Ethernolog 7-11-2 D Parker 5 20-0 LAPKSHILL 20 J FroGessi 6-11-2 J Supple 6 03-3 SRLFRG 15 (S) S Sul 7-10-11 2nd Preferance
7 -6FF DANDY DES FLAUTS 18 Mr. S Smith 6-10-6 G F Ryen (S) 8 P3-1 MARKET GDSSIP 21 (D,B) R 4/ner 7-10-5 Mr. J Tizzerd (S) 9 233- RECORD LOWER 284 (B) M Channan 7-10-0 W Worthholion
10 /FP/ ASK FOR BARNEY 807 B Rothwell 8-10-0 W Dwan 9-4 Bestenhally, 11-4 Market Gescap, 9-2 Payr's Choker, 7-1 Basy Breev, 8-1 Be

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4 95		
1.50	CLUBSTON LINCOLNSHIRE NATIO	DEMO
/Handison	chase: £9,326: 4m 1f) (7)	
(Leanningth	CHESC 18,320. 411 11) (1)	
1 IE1P	HULWALK 25 (E.O.S) R Curbs 11-11-16	.i Mar

1 USIP HELLWALK 25 (F.O.5) R Curts 11-11-16 J Mages (3) 2 21-8 PRICES HELL 20 (BF.S) r Balley 10-11-3 P Henisy (3)
3 3425 MASTER BUSTON 20 (F.G.S) R Woodhouse 9-10-11 W Dwan
4 -F42 CATS RUN 27 (C.F.G.) J Upson P-10-11
5 8812 D'ARBLAY STREET 25 (B.R.S) W Keno 8-10-0 D Finnesian (?)
5 517- CEPIDWEN 322 (S) 1 Greathand 7-70-0 W Worthmaton
8 817- CEREWINS 322 (S) 1 Greathard 7-70-0 W Warrington 7 P-09 WOODLANDS GENJORE 42 (S.P.) P Prochard 12-10-0 D Parter
11-4 D'Arbiay Street, 7-2 Cain Run, 4-7 Price's Hat 5-1 Hellaralli, 11-2 Massar Bosson, 7-1 Condiven, 50-1 Woodlands Genture

2.05 SANDILANDS BOLFING HOLIDAYS MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,514: 2m 3i 110yd) (13)
1 3F ANDTHER PICEA 47 A J Lockyrood 4-11-5 Mass A Domail
2 004 AUSSIE BIOB 34 Mrs S Smeth 5-11-5 . G F Rydor (5)
3 48 CASUAL CALL 13 T Easterby 5-11-5
4 11- COLOUR CODE 79F (F,6) Mrs A Sweenack 5-11-5 J Supple
5 722 COTTAGE CRAFT 777 W Bernell 8-11-5 2nd protection
6 G4-8 DORMYBROOK 17 R Washbuse 4-11-5 W Dwan
7 45-2 PERRERS 10 (6) Mr. P Siv B-11-5 W Marston
8 JUICE PLUS 823F 8 Dison 6-11-5 D Parior
9 00- HORMANDY DUKE 381 C Mmn 5-11-5 J Manee (3)
10 OSA/ PREMITIVE MAN 626 6 Temple 7-11-5 O Pears
11 25-0 SIBERNAN HENRY 20 B Smed 4-11-5 J Leach
12 4 TARA-BROGAN 27 I Williams 4-11-5 P Hunley (3)
13 GD- MSS MOUSE 226 t Conesterd 5-11-0 M Ranger
4-5 Colour Code 9-2 Ferrers, 6-1 Downstrook 8-1 Steman Heavy, 10-1 others

### WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER 1.15 Double-C. 1.40 Other Club. 2.15 Touchanova. 2.45 Italian Symphony, 3.15 Democrat. 3.50 Rex Mundi. 4.20 Soldler Cove. 4.50 Mercury.

DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

1.1	15 DICA	CHRIS MASSEYS BIRTHDAY CEL P (Div I: £2,401: 61) (8 runners)	EBRATION
2	0030	TAIGHUD 13 (CD.F.S) D Chapman 6-10-0	J Coulon
3	1603	RAMSEY HOPE 7 (V,C,D,F) C Fashurs 4-9-11	P Roberts (3)

7 0002 U-NO-HARRY 35 (O.F) R Holiumhted 4-8-8 . . . . 8 0044 RENNYHOLME 18 (C) A Multiplant 6-7-11 . 3-1 Village Mailve 4-1 Samsey Hope, 5-1 Latolist, 6-1 U-Wo-Harry, 7-1 Jáke's Double Rennyholme, 8-1 Napier Star, 16-1 Double-0

	1.40 BREAD SAUCE MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0- F3,306: 1m 100yd) (6)
	1 -800 BLOOD ORAMSE 31 6 Margason 9-0 A Clark 2 BENNGO 214 C Thorston 9-0 M Yebbadi 3 0323 FAYN 16 A Mexcombe 9-0 J Outpri 4 66-3 CTHER CLUB 31 J Toller 9-0 T Williams 5 602 AHLIYAT 54 J Hills 6-9 W Ryan 6 0460 PARINA 20 H Hollechead 8-9 F Lynch
ı	7-4 Abiliyat, 3-1 Fayik, 100-30 Other Club, 4-1 Bongo, 16-1 others.

2.1 (2-Y-0	5	CHRISTMAS PUDDING CLAIMING STAKES ,294: 61) (9)
1 5	000	COMEOUTOFTHEFOG 111 D Floorch Davis 8-13 S Drowne 5
2		TREACLE JONES N Tinkler 8-13 W Ryan 3
3 4	050	FRIGUCIONES 35 N Littmodes 8-6 S Vitatworth 8
4 5	006	NIGHT AUCTION 4 9 Palling 8-4 T Williams 9
		STRAVSEA 142 B Bauch B-I R Lappin 7
		MAGGICE 20 R Holloshead 8-2 Martin Dwyer 6
	man	TTM CHANGRA & G Margarean R-0 . J Dungs 2
ġ	200	JUST FOR THIA 4 W 6 M Turner 7-12 . A McCarthy (7) 4
ă	m	POLLYDUU 18 N Latmoden 7-12 D Wright 1
2		
7-4 Froh	ding	5-1 Night Auction, 7-1 Stransea, Just Fox Tiria, 10-1 others

<u>·</u> _		
2.45 CHI	RIS MASSEYS BIRTH NV N: £2,388. 6() (8)	DAY CELEBRATION

			ELITE HOPE 35 (CO.6) N Traile 5-10-0	W Ryan 7	I
	2	4070	ITALIAN SYMPHONY 13 (V.CD) P Evans 3-9-11	accariny (7) 4	
	3	0265	EASTERN PROPHETS 13 (BF,D,f,S) 6 Lbm. 4-9-	9 A Chart S	i
	4	43P0	MUTILAGN HILL LAD 13 (C) N Lifemoden 4-9-7	5 Winkerouth 3	ŝ
			REDOUBTABLE 8 (D.F.G) D Chapman 6-9-4		
			CORNECHE QUEST 27 (D.F) M Charmon 4-8-12		
			DEERLY 8 (BF,0,6) R Debut 4-8-3 F RIVER ENSIGN 22 (D,6) W M Bichourne 4-7-10	Mundy (7) S	
-	1 L	9-1 C	ophes, 4-1 Ballan Symphony, 5-1 Elife Hope, 6-1 Re meche Guest, 10-1 Mudlagh Hvil Lad, Roms Ensugh.	SUUUUSAUR. 1-1	
en.	-47.	4-1 4	VISCOR comme to a monthly tray (The train produc		

☐ Democrat attempts to prove himself one of the most improved all-weather performers in the Hague Fasterners Handicap at Wolverhampton. The Mark Prescott-trained gelding has risen 32lb in the handicap while completing a four-timer on sand.

#### THE Date Point, The Marchard Ming. Art bed to frame, But he cay to the disease. The Yard, 20-1 Decail Defendance 3.05 DUCKWORTH FREELANDER NOVICES CHASE (£3.834, 2m 11 110yd) (4) 1 49-4 CHERIA 23 C Smith 8-1-15 M Samper 2 6450 JOHN TUTTY 15 (G) 14-6-0-15 J F yer 3 0406 MON WINTAGE 14 (D 6.5) M Chamar 8-15-15 W Martington 4 2222 TEJANO GOLD 15 (D 6.5) F Brack 15-15 W Marting 4-5 Tuesto Colo 3-2 Nen Vertage 3-7 Cheeks 12-1 der 10-7 3.35 RON LANE BIRTHDAY NOVICES CLAIMING HURDLE (£1,912 2m 11,110yd) (14) | Magnet | 1,1312 | 21111 | 1,107(1) | 1,141 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 | 1,142 |

2.30 WINCANTON GOLD CARD HANDICAP

End Production A Product . .

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4 35 (1 or NPNW 41 8 3 - 1)

9 00-00 (NPNW 41 8 3 - 1)

10 00-00 (NPNW 41 8 3 - 1)

11 10-11 NODE STARRES TO S

let being fit burnest built as the second second

3.30 PARKERS CATERERS NOVICES HANDICAP

11-4 Majore Sound, 6-7 Majorety, 7-3 Guita, Julie - Major Reprise (1996), 19 1 Geography Express, Nameral 14-1 april

**COURSE SPECIALISTS** TRANSPS: M. P.De. 40 warrens to m. 140 color. 150 m. M. J. Physia. 15 from 66 22 Th. P. Sawet. T. Var. 14 10 4 10 4 10 color. 25 from 138 10 3% J. Gibbon. 16 turn 17 19 3 V.

JOCKEYS R Johanes, 6 warmers from 27 mars, 10,2%, P in del Parton. 46, 19,2%, C Maude, 10 kpm 65, 16,4%, P Forter, Single CC, 15,1%,

2.35 ROSELAND GROUP KILVINGTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£4.653-2m 3! 110yd) (6)

### 146 UR DARCY 2017 (1917)

- 034 MERORO SORRO 20 F manual 111

- 034 MERORO SORRO 20 F manual 111

- 634 FABULOUS MITOTO 147F M 10 F manual 111

- 635 WELTON ANSERIAL 15 M 10 F m 10

6 006 REGATIVE EQUITY TO A THE MANUAL TO SALACIA 25 PARTY THESE 25 PARTY SALACIA 25 CAMPANY THREE 25 PARTY SALACIA 25 CAMPANY SALACIA 25 PARTY SALACIA 25

HURDLE (£2 444 2m) (14)

Ī	40	LORD HASTIE 13 N Tinelar 9-10-11	y Karsid () Pean 4 Currie 17
9	5 3241	LADY STLK 22 Macs J Cram C-10-9 BANER 10 (G) S Cont 8-10-5 Mass I	S Webste R Clark (5
11 12 13	180	STEAM ON 17 (D.G) Mrs L Janey 6-10-5 P JULY BEVELED 18 3 Elegan 6-19-0	Henley (3 D Paris
	dy's Te	REGAL JEST 49 B Muray 7-10-0 mms, 3-1 Shark 8-1 Carado Fock 9-1 Lord Haste 5 -1 Gay's Campble 16-1 others	W Dwai Sarez, 10-1
		COURSE SPECIALISTS	
42 Ba	.9% C Jey 14 m 21.	RASEN Trainess: H Chance, 3 miners from 7 in Monn 5 from 17, 29.4%, J Peace, 6 from 21, 28 k from 50 28.0% (Factority 4 from 17, 23.5% for P 19.0% Josephys: W Marcinn, 5 miners, from 35 Ryan 1 from 56 12.1% (One qualifier)	5 A
SE	DGERE	ELD: Transmit Mis M Reveloy 72 wincers from 261 n Paggaraid, 15 from 55 27 3%, 7 Easkert / 7 tran 27 1	UEAGE:

fam 21, 190% Josephys: W Marshon, 5 winner, from 35 ride, 143% J Ryan 7 from 58 121% (this qualifier:
#EDGERELD: Transmit Max M Reveloy 72 wineers from 261 nations. 7 66. J Fragment 5 from 55 75%, 7 Eachert, 7 from 27 25 97. Park, 7 from 27 25 97. Park, 7 from 27 25 97. Seel, 3 from 13. Seel, 14 Masso, 7 from 28 25 99. Jouchays M Haston, 3 winners from 14 index, 27 3%, 6 Accounted 9 from 25, 22 98. E Callagham 10 from 49, 20 89. Historia, 14 from 95, 14 684 Mar S Swiets, 3 from 25 12 08.
METHERBY Trainers Lins M Reveloy 50 annears from 195 runners 65%, G Richards, 29 from 102, 270% I Sassifty, 18 from 87 20% O Barmen 5 from 26 192% F Majohy, 2 from 19 158% J Regerald, 15 from 99, 152% Lins 5 Smath, 15 from 107 140%, ockeys P Maran, 47 annears from 164 rotes 255% P Cartern, 12 cm 90, 240%, 1 Myre 38 from 164 rotes 255% P Cartern, 12 cm 90, 240%, 1 Myre 38 from 166 255% M Sections 5 from 29 7.2% G Lies, 3 from 24, 125% July C Bother, 5 from 29, 153%

#### Blinkered first time

AYR: 12.55 Person's Lodge, Blazing Trail, Sagebruch Roller HERIEFORD: 2.35 Storm Point 3.05 Over The Wissian HUNTINGDON 2.30 Physical Fun MARKET RASEN, 2.35 Marchant Ming NEWTON ABBOT 3.30 Marcess Rose, 2.05 Nen Risk SEDGEPIELD: 1.00 Alical 1.30 Miss Colette 2.00 Cedestus Premiero: 2.30 UK Higgiane WiNCANTON: 2.30 Jol Rules WOLVERHAMPTON: 2.50 Head Gardener Red Phan-tom 4.20 Muara Bay 4.50 Orange Piece

### 3.15 HAGUE FASTENERS HANDICAP

ľ	E4,983: 1m 100yd) (9)					
	1		LIONIZE 22 (8,D.F.G) Mis J Cepil 4-9-11	-	W By	
	8.	1511			G Duthi	
	3	0005			S (Iron	n.
	4	0003	SEL* ST JOHE: 18 (D.G) M Ryan 3-8-6		A CL	ж.
	5	0401	SUALTACH 59 (C.D.F.S) P. Hallmanead 4-6-4		Flyn	
	É	2041	BENTICO 8 (V.CO.F.G) Mar. II Mazzulo: 8-8-4	(Ber)	D Bag	MS.
	Ť	0200	CEE-N-A 14 (8.D.F) M Johnston 3 9-3	l Gra	mitham i	M
	8	1040	THREE ARCH BREDGE 14 (B.D.F.G.S) M JOSENS	stan 5	-8-3	
	-				ProBand	n)
		3035	ENCHANTING EVE 16 (C.D.B) C Alim 3-7-12	Ma	rien Dwy	a.
4	Ďe	mocral.	9-2 Lionize, 11-2 Sali-St John, 7-1 Staffach	8-1 8	PM CO	10-
٠	~~	-	at the "application of a street			

ι.	511	TURKEY SELLING STAKES	
. 1,5	99. 1	m 4f) (10)	
1	4003	REX MUNDI 20 (V.CO.F) P Example 5-9-12 A &	IcCarthy (7)
- 2	0100	RED PHANTOM 37J /B,C,OJ S Mellor 5-9-8	M Wichem
3	5-02	PEARL ANNIVERSARY SU (LD) S Hatan 494 .	M Dayer
ě			S Whereigh
5	5403	SKELTON SOVEREIGN 13 (CD,F) R Hollarateast 3	
			Hayden (7)
6		SIBOR STAR 239 P Surcher 3-8-13	A Clark
7		SWISS COAST (FU (V) R JUDGE 3 5-1)	A CuPrane
8		BLAZER'S BABY 39 (F) Ma: 1. Macanie; 5-6-1.	5 Drowne
3		SIDNEY THE NICHEY 13 M P. W I S.A	
10	0606	TABASCO JAZZ 20 8 Meetan 3-8-6	M Tebbuq
1 Ae	LL L	7.2 Bellen Sorereign, 5-1 Feat Arthouses 7-1.7	المدار متحف
Suttre	w The I	Comes 16-1 Red Pharmon 15-1 Head Gardener East	mr. Raber "K

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4.00			
4.ZU	PARSO	NS NOS	E HANDICAP
(Div I: £1,			
•			(11)

1	0000	KENOPHON OF CUMAKA 10J (F,S) B Lieusitya	4.9.10
			J Walanson (7)
- 2	4004	SOLDER COVE IOU (CD.S) D Europet 7-9-9	S Copp (5)
3	0065	ETHBAAT 28 (C.F.G) LI HEXON-SIL: 6-9-6	S Drowne 1
4	1604	GABLESEA 8 (C) 9 South 2-9-4	A CLABAGE
- 5	0430	FARLED TO HET 13 (V.F) N Litery den 4-9 .	S When will
6	1410	COUNTS CHOICE 67 (C) J Counting 3-3-1	P Bradley (7)
ī	647	HEATHYARDS LADY 27 (BF.C.F.G) 5 regionse	2:59:
			F Lynch 1
8	00us	GENLUNE JOHN B J Panas: 4-8-10	:J Tebbort
ġ	31.35	MUARA BAY 65 (D BF,G) & 128: 3-8:13	A Cabe
10	0502	QUEENS STROLLER 27 (CD.S) P Featon 6-3-	1. J Bramhdi
15	05:04	SHUTTLECOCK 18 (C.S) D Chapman 6-6-1	J Quine
1 14	ucra Ba	y 9-3 Outent Station, 6-1 Captigua, 13-2 read	mares tage 7
ddie	Cove	e-1 Farled To Hit. Colors Charce 14-1 class:	

### 4.50 PARSONS NOSE HANDICAP

(Div	II: £1	944- 1m 1( 79yd) (10)	
1	0501	MAZEED 20 (V CD.F) P Excro 4.2 FF A ORANGE PLACE 35 (V.F.G.S) B UNMERT 5-9-1	McCathy (7)
			i l'illustran (T
ž	6420	GUESSTRACTION 7 (D.F.G.S) J. Acado: 8-1-4 MCRCURY 13-8 Bases 4-1-2	M Wignan A Culhan
ć 6	4000 0304	SHE'S A CRACKER & Mrs. 11 Library, 3-9-2 CHADLEIGH LANE 20 (V.C) = Marking 5-9-1	S Dro-ma D Wheti
7	0051	GIRL OF MY DREAMS 27 (C) of headen-files 4	6-11 T WARLANTS
		NORTH ARDAR 296 (F.G.) N Limitocom ? 4-6	S VACUUTE
		PRINCIPAL BOY 32 (0,6,5) J Gener 4-4-5 Great Bear 65 (f,6) D Cristical S-7-10	S D Williams J Down
9-4 M Princi	azera. Dal Bov.	F1 Set all My Discres, 9-2 Secuciosistem 7-1 City 12-1 Discret Place, Marcay (3-1 others	र्गालकः ध्रिकः वि

#### **COURSE SPECIALISTS**

TRANSRS, W Javes, 8 ammer, from 27 runties, 39 6%. M Preson, 27 from 113, 23.9%, M Johnston, 53 from 206, 22.5%, J Toller, 4 from 18, 22.2%, J Passes, 11 from 63, 17.5%, G Levic, 3 from 54, 16.7% JDCICEYS P Bradler 3 womers from 6 rules 50 0% G Dutheld 29 from 168 15 4%, W Braso, 5 from 34, 14 7% R Lapput 9 from 63, 14.3%, A Clark 25 from 503, 11.3%, Market Dwysor 4 from 36, 11.1%

#### **NEWTON ABBOT**

THUNDERER 1.25 Keen Dancer, 1.55 Sparkling Cone, 2.30 manos, 3.00 Hold Your Ranks 3.30 Court Master, 4.00 Ken Risk

CON GUREANY EXCRECTION 0.00 TODAYS

.	1.25 THURLESTONE HOTEL JUVENILL HURDLE (3-Y-0 \$2,033 2m 1) (7 runners)	E NOVICES
.	521 CRUSE OF MAGIC 25 JED Gy Library, 13	G Supple 151
١	5 CGPPER SHELL 41 4 / June 17-12	6 50 med
- !	D 2 NEEN DANCER 19 19 HER 10 TU	6 lerrey
	<ul> <li>C SMADED COFF = CSU 0 in 12</li> </ul>	S Barreugn
- 1	DA MESLEY'S LAD 77 TEALING 1917	j j Burchel D felitions
	5	D 1 * Argnings (1)
i	A fill and Carrier 6 fill accord for Carrier Village 3 in Augustia	12 1 252

#### 3.00 LORD STALBRIDGE MEMORIAL GOLD CUP (Harylicap chase £7,074 2m 1110/c 17) 1 PON SUMEN BANKS (CF G) 11110/c 17 1 PON SUMEN BANKS (CF G) 11110/c 17 1 PON SUMEN BANKS (CF G) 11110/c 17 1 PON SUMEN BANKS (CF G) 1110/c 17 1 PON SUMEN BANKS (CF 1.55 THE INTERNET ON WWW.ECLIPSE.CO.UK.NARACECOURSE NOVICE 9-4 tagen Redet 7-2 tages, Em 3-2 langer Black for all at a finished regulation till 4 feet Brand 11-1 Basis and

URA	32 15	2.263 201 31 1 10101 (2)
-	5P-1	SPARMANG COME BIOS WILL INVESTIGATION IS POST
2	J1-5	Said BEACH 22 (C.S) Product 6 (C.S) Mail Technol (
•		HOLDOMOLOSE 20 (F.S) Final Title 1
- 4	100	LUV SHIFARD 1063 (S. Mings of Not
	.5.0	NORMAN SI COMMINCED 22 (G) C 中海 (高 0.45-42 II S Barness
- 6	Mr.	PENNYATOOP PRINCE 21 (5) 6 5 4 4 10.13
	04.2	RUSTIC LIGHT TO the A HONOR DIRECTO THE HE M SHAM
5	P30	*CASSES DELCOV 30 (6) 1 Propage 14 (6.7) 6 Turns
•	2-22	PEARL'S SHOUGH 11 . Mill concerns a 12-7 Did have been
2-17 S	Samo	Come R. Fearle Choice Grandware - Priore Rich groen
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#### P Have 2.30 EBF NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE . ೧೯೭೭ ೯ ಕ್ಷಮ ಕ್ಷಮ ಕ್ಷಮ 8 mm/sr 2 pages 15-2 pages 15-3 fages 15-2 fages 15

بدايا:	dier	\$2,775, 2m 1!, (10)	
1	Ð-1₽	IRANGS 21 (8F.0.5) VI Prov. 5-11-5	G Supple ≀!
•	3116	WELSH FILE 15 (GIS) & County Settle	பூ ங்கூரை ம்
		POLD POMEO 21 to Honge san Service	T C Marriery "
4	ile may	CHARLE ENDER 20 4 5,44 5-11-5	At J Texare is
- 5	74	CERSY GILLERSEEST 11 A Rich with t	J Frog
6	0052	DIPE OF PAIRTIELS 48 A forestmos 4-15-3	D Funtion :
-		30076R 900: 17 2 3 (Asia 1/17-)	. Du Burtie
	303-	NEVER IN DEBT 216 (F) & Hoods \$150.0	2 Pawel
	25.0	SNEW ACTION 20 II fands 1 11-5	IJ Shanai
٦.	3040	MAYORIDGE LADY 30 F Hights 4-17-4	G ĭom™
*-4 m	ne 9.	a three till 6-t dod Rama if it diese to	(G-1 ML strice)
15.	7-1 h	awin Sept. 2011 Earth Gleenrook, 3714 (merch	

#### 3 NO LANGSTONE CLIFF HOTEL HANDICAP

			3 469  2m 2l 116 <sub>7</sub> 3 <sub>1</sub> (8)	, ma
	•	PP4.	MAZZARO Z90 GCCC SI A 6 G in the Collection	- 10m
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			LOCA GLARIER, REDICTION TO A CONTRACT OF	3 Pa
			EPACIFIC PART (1) (2 CD S) Those 1 1 15	3
				ille a l'action d
	÷	2-2U	PERSONAL CONTRACT OF CO.	5 74.75
	6	3-65	SELVERBOO 11 (CD.C.C) / " and 11-11-4	S Economic
	;	3 31	HOLD YOUR RANKS IT IC . 3 ft : 17 " 5	وخلات و
				16.50
,-	:	0.00	e Provincia (parez al la persona de la Arbado)	m Broth in

### 3.30 WHY NOT EMAIL: NARACECOURSE, CO.UK

nan	DILA	L CUMPE (173 + 54 Tub + 10/16) (4)	
•	1642	THURSDAY (BOHT IT CONTINUED A TOTAL	
		25	A Topics
	213	AMBLESDE 20 GF D to the Court of Court	a Pize
•	. P.	COURT MASTER 10 (CDS) FIL	€ Par
		SEPTIMENT LANCASTER 293 IS DIG to MICH.	•
			1 2016
-	P22	ROSING PRIDE 11 (0.0 S) 1 F (2.11 T A)	6.75=
ě	5.05	BIT OF A TOUGH 22 IS COLF GOOD FOR A TOUGHT.	11.
7	1100	MISTRESS ROSE 11 /8 CD F CT !! *	* 20 27-2 7
*.e	r Ma	of F.C. decision bear F. Fatter, P. C. H. Amar-	
الفراجا	e 10.	, to 17.0 decision begin 17.0 Patrick Prints (1997) Artists 1.8.0 St 4.75 (1997) Mathematic Patrick	

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	Commenting and the Arica, but have the last the market being to the market being the formal and the second sections.

### COLIDGE CDECIALISTS

П	GOUNGE SPECIALISTS
	TRABLERS More of Withouts is quarter from the university of the Headerton School 12 41 to 17 House, 15 from the gibb in the strong of the order of the 129 25 th and the strong of the Color and the ADD CORPS DUBLISHED School for the 18 order 15 for the form of the 12 for the from the color of the 15 for th
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#### SEDGEFIELD

IUNDERER	
00 For Cathal, 1.30 Dark Oak, 2.00 Chipped	d Out
30 Kildrummy Castle. 3.00 Brancher.	3.30
amond Beach.	

#### GOING, GOOD 1,00 RED ONION NOVICES HURDLE

(55,880 Bill of Links) (1 Indices)	
1 -221 BIRKDALE 15 (S) 1 Lungo 6-11-5	A Supple
: 31-1 FOR CATHAL 27 (G.S) Lin IN Revelo, 6-11	- S. N. Smooth
3 0103 MALE-DOT 17 (F) F (Arthur) 5-11-5	C McCormeck (5)
4 P-PF ALICAT 32 (B) / Conc 6-10-12	Mr 5 Sweets
5 F-P FOREVER SHY 11 Mm F Lamb H-10-12	Mass 5 Lamb (7)
E RANASHDA 9 2 Houseld Johnson 6-10-12	. E Calleghan
7 POP SELLY PET 243P 5 Popular 1-10-12	. D Bunthy
5-4 For Cather 6-4 Bendale 7-1 Mell-Der 8-1 Fabachde 3	3-1 others

#### 1.30 KEN BRIGHT STILL GOING AFTER ALL

THESE '	/EARS HANDICAP (	<b>:HASE</b> (£3,738	3m 3l) (1
1 6-3			
2 UP4	1 DARK DAN 23 (C.F.C.5)	J Curis 11-11-3	. 12 5 50
3 74	5 TILTY 8 IV.F.S. A Steel	er 7-11-3	1
z 2.L	P ANOTHER VENTURE 18	(S) F Murphy 7-11	L E Galle
5 P24	PRYECROSSING 16 (B.F	) T Easterby 7-10-10	. Fleat
6 3-3	4 FERN LEADER 23 (BF.)	) C Grant 7-10-6	Mars S 6
7 25-	3 SIREAIC 15 (S) 5 Buil 7	-10-?	, it John
8 /3	NIBBY BANK 721 J Hos	arg Juliuson 5-10-2	RSI
9 SUU	PIGLE OLE 17 (V.C.F.S) N	bs E Mesaroo 11-10-	8 M Newton
-50	6 MISS COLETTE 18 (B.C.)	D.F.G1 Mrs D Thomso	n 9-18-0 L O1
	F TUDOR FELLOW 17 J W		C McCormec
3-1 Dark Da	i 7-2 fam Leidar 9-2 fugt	≥ Feligar 17-2 Saram	12-1 other.

#### 2.00 DURHAM INNS LTD. NOVICES CHASE

123,1	UQ Z	id sit (19)
1	-1P1	CHIPPED OUT 15 (CD.5) IA Todhurus 7-11-12 C McCompack (5)
- :	6-U	APACHE RAIDER 14 F Number 5-10-12 L D'Hara
- 7	:503	CADEAUD, PREMIERE 9 (BJF) D Smith 6-10-12 F Leafly (3)
4		CALLERMON 35 (S) D Lamb 7-10-12
- 5	13.16	CuSTLE RED 57 (BF) / Wade 5-10-12 N. Johnson
€	33-	CROWDED HOUSE 246F (S) 3 54500 9-10-12 Mr R Hale
7		DAVID'S WAY 627 IS Pail 5-10-10 D Bentley
ě		EXECUTIVE DESIGN 43 (0.5) HIS M Provider 5-10-12 IN STREET
9		JBLS JOY 17 4 Creeks 6-10-12 Y Eley
10	-124	PIVER CHALLENGE 20 (G) J Upsco 6-10-12 . R Supple
17		SALLARS STALKER 678 (D.S) Not Sumbadi 9-10-12 His C Wilson
10		STARE FRIGHT 21 F Jauphy 6-10-12
13	2-26	THE BIRD O DOMINELL 28 (6,5) Mr. A Naughton 11-10-12
		Mr T J Barry (7)
Sette	الإراقت	Deugn, 5-1 Chapped Out 6-1 Rinds Challenge, 7-1 Stage Frant 8-1
. "قالند	يطاخك	10-1 Cadeam Presucts 12-1 David's Way, 14-1 other.

### 2.30 RENT-ROLL CUP HANDICAP CHASE

1	F2n1	THIS IS NOT LIFE 123 (D.F.G) Mr.S IS Million 8-11-10 E Call	d
2	2134	MARBLE MAN 34 (O.F.S) N Perk 7-11-8	
•	3-14	VAL DE RAMA 17 (CD.F.6) D Smith 8-11-1 R S	all i
4	0-43	SHAHGRAM 48 (S) J Hubbuck 9-10-8 B Gratis	30
÷	4125	XAPETE 10 (CD.F.6) N Mason 5-10-7	H
€	365	POTATO MAIN 300 (S) B Elison 11-10-3 C McCormac	
7	35-4	KALDRURARY CASTLE 15 (D.F.) J FLEGMAN 5-10-0 . F Leaf	iar i
8		UK ETYGENE TO IBLOF IN Harmond 7-10-0 N Horrock	
9	5396	SHULTAN 23 (F.G) J Kade 8-10-6	
-4 [	his Is I	Ay Life 7-2 Wildrummy Castle, 5-1 Val de Rama 6-1 Marble the 7-1 Napele, 10-1 Smitgram 25-1 others	_
		and the second second second	

#### 3.00 UNION HALL SIENNA STUD HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,723, 2m 5f 110yd) (12)

1	12-1	TOSHIBA TALK 16 (CO.F.S) B Ellison 5-11-15	C McConnack (
2	-511	XINDA GROOMY 17 (B,CO,F,G) 1 7 WF 8-11-11	. NSm
- 3	4614	BRANCHER 11 (F.G.St / Turnox 6-11-10 .	fi Supi
4	23-1	BITRAN 9 (6.5) 8 nomed 7-11-4 (70)	植名地
5		STYLISH INTERVAL 36 (C.F.) () Small 5-11-2	Fileatry i
è	5/18	TOPOTHERORTHRALING 29 (CD,F,G,S) P Bayes	peri 7-11-2
			8 Gratian (
7		AMAZING SAL 23 (CD.F) Mez. L! Mabgan 4-1	
ā	76		
9		SPRING CALL 8 (CD.F) C Pogson 7-10-0	T Hopg (
10		DISSINGTON TIMES 23 IF G) W Mctrown 3-1	
11	-550	SHELTON ARREY 98 (B,CD,F,G,S) J Wedt 11-	10-0 E Callagh
12	3406	BARNSTORMER 18 (B.F.G) E FINOR 11-10-0	M H Naughtor (
· k	inda 6	coopy 4-1 looking Tall, 4-7 Sulan 13-	Brancher 5
		cong 10-1 Ameding Sail Dissinglets Timus 12-1	

### 3.30 HALLGARTH MANOR HOTEL HANDICAP

1		DURANO 20 (S) T Easterby 6-12-9 . N Homocks. (7)
- 2	2024	DUANGO 6 (D.G) J Fitt Gorald 5-11-12 F Leahy (3)
3	1134	FATEHALKHAIR 49 (CD.F) 5 ERSon 5-11-5 G McCormack (5)
-	11-0	ARSTENBOSCH 11 (D.F.G) 1 19920 10-16-13 C Dunne (7)
- 5		DIAMOND BEACH 8 (S) 6 M Moore 4-10-12 E Callagran
1	7057	GENERAL S ORDERS 11 (CD.F.S.) J Turner L-10-7 R Supple
- 7	P304	NOCATCHEM 23 (V.CD.F.G.S) I. Norcan 8-10-0 B Grattan (5)
8		RUBISLAW 11 Mrs F Lamb 5-10-0 Mrss S Lamb (7)
		5-1 Durans, Duranens Beach, 3-2 Faleballman, 5-1 General's Orders n. 12-1 Firstanbosch, 33-1 Robellen
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#### AYR

2.55 Forzair. 1.25 Common Sound. 2.00 Hopefu ord. 2.35 Naughty Future. 3.10 Master Bavard. 3 40 ossel.	
SOING GOOD TO SOFT	SIS

#### 12.55 PORT N BRANDY SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,898 2in) (10 runners)

2 059 SACESMANN NOLLEN IS (0) 2 10 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
15 Farson ; Lodge, 11-4 Ballego. 7.2 Forcar 8-1 Cagebrish Rober 12.1 Mosetan Presin, 48,405/(tot.) 14-1 Cyhan Calabration 18-1 other;
1.25 GOOSE NOVICES CHASE (\$2,785* 2m) (9)
P-15 LA RIVIERA 16 (D.F.) J Charlon 5-11:— Mr M Bracthume (5)

### 4PD- CITTADMO 353 (D,G,S) C Tromacc 7-19-12

3	P-14	COMMON SOUND 11 (BF.D.S) J Sychy 5-10 12 R McGrath	C
4	-005	ESOURMAN 10 G Pachards 6-10-12 B Harr	à
5	26-4	HAVA HTEGGS 16 (D.F.G) LI Rammond 6-10-12 . 2nd Prefere	nc
£	RPP.	PATTER MERCHANT 285P Mss. L Facesell 8-10-12 D Read	1
ī	UG03	TEEJAY MARICH 10 /D.F.G.St. J. Golde 5-10-12 . S Taylor	í.
8	3-22	WELSH MARCH 16 (BF 5) 6 M Mores 5-10-12 J Called	
3	2500	FAME AND FANTASY 29 (D.F.) A WHAT & 6 NO-7 A 5 St	н
		on 9 0 Teejay niadon 5-1 Common Sound 11-2 Calastono 13-2 Squangu, 16-1 Farre And Faricas, 66-1 others	21

#### **COURSE SPECIALISTS**

TRANSPS: G Richards, 47 winners from 20% numbers, 23.3%, A Whilland 7 hour 38, 18.4% J.J. J. Neill, 20 hour 116, 17.2%; C Thombon, 5 from 29-17.2% D Whilland, 3 hour 18, 16.7%. JOCARYS: All Foctor 5 winners from 39 rules, 12.8%, S Taylor, 3 from 26, 11.5%, P. ArcGrath, 3 from 29, 10.3%. Only qualifiers

### WETHERBY

THUNDERER 12.45 Joe Shaw, 1.15 Ham N'Eggs, 1.50 Karal, 2.25 Colonel In Chief, 2.55 Chief Minister, 3.25 Foundry Lane.

#### GOING GOOD TO SOFT 12.45 BOXING DAY NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

1 FO1S ARDERT SCOUT 11 (D.G) We 3 Scott 5 11-10 H Bertley	10
2 25-4 JOE SHAW 38 Mrs M Revelop 4-11 5 P November 4-11 5	194
2 P-12 GLENDOWER 18 (CD.6) Ni Hammond 5-11-5 Mr C Bonner (3)	10
4 -216 JERRIE'S PROSPECT 29 (D.F.) J.J. Clied C-11-C. P. Carberry	9
5 .22: COTTAGE CRAFT 777 // Betruit 5-11-0 M Moloney	
63536 LEAP IN THE DARK 18 (D.F.S) Mr.: L. Salaul 8-16-11 T Rend	11
7 23-0 ARROGANT HEIR 14 DIVENION 413-11 Mr.S. Durack (5)	17
8 -53P SAM CHAMPAGNE 34 I Eastery (-10-5 L Wyer	100
4 30-4 NASAYER 15 N Mason 7 10-7 P. Garrety	- 9
12:0329 SECOND ROOLE 8 0 Brentan 7:19-7 M Bronnan	100
11 P-31 PRIMITIVE HEART 20 (CD.5) H Alconder 5-16-5 B Store)	10
12 /4-4 EFAAD 20 J Hotton 6-10-0 G Lev	10,
13 -000 CHAN MOVE 11 W Smith 5-10-7 R Hannity (7)	9
4-1 Stationer 5-1 Joe State 11-2 Primitive Heart 7-1 Artists Scalin	10-
Jennus : Prespect Leap in The Dark Sam Champagne Second Finale Stur	
NO.E	

### 1.15 BOROUGHBRIDGE NOVICES CHASE

12111 KADASTROF 18 (0.6.3) 6 (notor 7-11-12 — 2nd Preimence [ 24212 SHRWIG EDGE 9 (PF.D.F.G) T 2019/05 5-11-9 — DOUBTFUL 20PPP AHBEJAYBUS 11 (B) Mass L Salcoli 8-11-4 — T Riend	
20PPP AHBELAYBUS 11 (B) Mass L Satisfi 6-11-4 T Rend	14
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4 P3-0 COURT JOKER 23 (G) H -Jecanos 5-11-4 6 Storey	73
5 25-4 HAM N'EGGS 16 (D.F.G) M Hammond 6-11-4 R Garrety	90
6 - B40 JOLLY HEART 13 U Bloman 7-11-4 M Bronnan	-
4-9 Hami N'Eggs 5-2 Court John 7-1 John Heart 35-1 Africayette	
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#### 1.50 ST JOHN AMBULANCE HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,215 2m) (6)

	LARGEBER (2)	1201
2 1-30 STASH THE CASH 27 (D F G,S) M (Materials 6-3)	1-11	
a tree military with executing that wile in the control of	R Gamily	135
3 -341 DR BONES 20 (CD.G.5) F Mesony 4-11-€	P Carberry	132
4 20F- KAITAK 237 (CD.G) 7 Easterby 6-11-7	J. Wyer	9776
		11.00
5 /222 HOUSE OF DREAMS 27 (G) & M Moore 5-10-13	N Bentity	175
6 224 SAMAND 211 (D.F.G) 1503 1 Sets (15:10:9)	T Reest	129
D. P.C. Shathdian et a finit by any of Santon Colors	1 1985 0	1-7
9-4 New Iron, 5-2 Dr. Bothes, 19-2 House Of Dreams, 16-1 Stath F	he ( ±5 5-1)	100
10-1 Sanared		

#### 2.25 ROWLAND MEYRICK HANDICAP CHASE

trialing and old to	
1 11-4 SPARKY GAYLE 41 (BF F.G.S) C Parks 7-11-10 B Storey 2 55-3 AVRO AKSON 14 (F.G.N. Carresto 9-11-7 P Noven 3 2-04 MAJOR 6EL 13 (D.F.G.S) A Vinitians 3-11-1 L Wyor 4211 S TRAIN ROYAL 20 (CD.F.G.S) 9 Bernan 11-10-10	1
M Brussan 5 11-2 COLONEL IN CHIEF 20 (CD.G.S) G Fischero: 7-10-4 P Carberry	16
5-2 Commel in Casel 11-4 Spainy Gayle 7-2 Major Bell 5-1 Avin Arson Royal	د ان
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#### 2.55 SUPERMASTER HANDICAP CHASE

121,022 211 41 1.0301 (0)	
1 -405 ROYAL MOUNTERDAINE 13 (D.G.S) Lines N. Royant \$411-10	
P Midgley (3)	150
26111 CUMBRIAN CHALLENGE 20 (CD.F.G S) T Easterby 8-10-13	
L Wiver	165
3 14-3 CHIEF MINISTER 40 (BF,D,F,G,S) I.I Hammond 9-10-8	
H Garnety	157
4 130- WHISPERING STEEL 253 (D.G.S) G Richard: 11-10-5 B Stoney	157
5 /3P- NORTHANTS 308 (D.G.S) W Storey 11-10-3 M Elaborary	143
5 /3P- NORTHANTS 308 (D.G.S.) W Stoney 11-10-3 M Easterney 63323 BRAMBLEBERRY 9 (D.F.G.S.) Lbs : Smith 3-10-0 P Carteery	151
71-10 Cumbrum Challenge 7-2 Chief Meester 9-2 Whitegring Steel	8-1
Northants, 12-1 Maniplebrary, 14-1 Royal Mountaining	

#### 3.25 CHRISTMAS NOVICES HURDLE

	[ fra'asa sun' (11)	
	1 12 FOUNDRY LANE 13 (D.G) Mr. M Negation 6-11-4 P Niven	13
	3 53 ALPINE HIDEAWAY 16 M W Easterby 4-10-12 P Midgley (3)	12
	3 G- CRAIGE BOY 174F N Everal 7-10-10 N Bentley	71
	4 OF LORENTERO 13 Mars V Ward 4-10-12 Mr. S. Dorack (S.)	11
	5 O GFTBOX 22 If Bycrott 5-10-12 . M Molymey	6
	6 6 HOH EXPRESS 29 Lbs J Ramsden 5-10-12 R Gamply	В
	7 P.P MYOUGOBLUE 23 H Alectricus 5-10-12 T Read	-
	8 121 JUSTIN MAC 35 (D.F.G) J Fittle-sid 6-14-12 . P Carbony	
	9 40 LORO HASTIE 13 N Tinber 9-10-12 2nd Preference	
	10 O-6 MO'S BOY 9 Mas 5 Smath 6-10-72 S Portat (7)	
	11 2/53 MR TEES COMPONENTS 47 Mg U Reveloy 5-16-12 G Lea	80
1	12 6 PROLIFIC AGENCY 17 F Murcity 4-18-13 Mt C Bonner (3)	70
1	13 RUSA 63F F Larderby 4-10-12 . L Weet	-
1	14 SHARDANTE W cettell 4-19-12 43 Brennan	
1	15 30 SQUANDAMADRA 32 J Honor 4-16-17 R Burns (7)	51
	IF PIOS WHATDIDYOUSAY 23 E Pour send 9-10-12 B Storey	-
ì	17 0-4 SHARLEY COP 15 to Camedia 5-19-7	-
1	5-4 Foundry Lane, 5-1 Justin Mar. A 1 Rose, 10-1 Algene Hittenstay, 12-1 IA	
	Foremant, 46 6 Mak Conner Shallon toward, 46 6 Makes	102
	Computers: 14-1 Hoth Express Profiles Agency 25-1 others	

	NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (\$2,318 2m 4l) (7)
ound, 2.00 Hopeful Master Bavard, 3 40	1 -124 HOPEFUL LORD 11 (BF.D.F) P Coccitrough 5-11-5 A S Smith 2 P-PP EASITY JORGE 20 (D.F.G.S) 5 retilised 9-10-12 R McGrath (3) 3 5-42 NB FINER MAN 8 G Richards 6-10-12 B Harding (7) HIRT LODGE J Door 6-10-9 Llanding (7)
	5 45-2 POLAR KING 32 C Tromton 4-10-3 68 Foster 6 THIDLES BIBLE M Individe 1-10-9 J Calaghem 7 00-5 PEAK A BIDD 16 0 Yirolaw 6-10-7 S Taylor (5)
SIS	11-8 No Fines Man 9-4 Hopeful Load, 11-2 Polating 8-1 Ex.5, John 14-1

### 2.35 ALADDIN AT THE GAIETY HANDICAP CHASE

(£3,4	74.3	m 1() (7)	
f	0.70	BETTER TIMES AHEAD 13 (6,5) 5 Richards 11-13-	5 R Handle
- 2	1/1/	SHOWING FOUNTAIN 755 (G 5) G M Forster 3-11-4	
		M: M	Bradbume (
3	13-4	JURISCHIUS CAPTAIN 41 (F. S.) He 1 Sings "(L. )). III	Link Cities
4	0-76	NAMENTY FUTURE 29 (CD.G.S) . J. O'THOM 8-10-6	K Mrt.com
	u-	PETER 272 (F) 9 (Anilian: 9 10-3	A S Smi
6	34-3	SEEKING GOLD 69 (D.F.G) J Pareter 9-10-1	M fasi
7	13P/	HAG'S WAY 611 (S) M Techunty 7-10-0	
•		there is a seen and find an improper 3 a set of	J Callagn:

#### 2-1 Better Tomer Ahead 11-4 Magniy Furanc 3-1 Decking Gold, 9-2 Judicious Captain 13-2 Straing Fountain 16-1 Hagis Way 25-1 Public 3.10 TEXSTYLE WORLD WINTER SALE NOVICES

HAN	DICA	P CHASE (£2,843 2m 4f) (6)	MOTICES
3	2.30	RACHAEL'S OWEN TO (BF.D.F.G) // Golde 7-11-10 TRUE SCOT 11 (G.S) F Charatrough 7-11-6 MASTER BAVARD 10 (F.G) F Montain 9-11-5 (SCC)	4 S Smith
4 3P-1 SOLSGR7H 40 (CD.G.S.) J Barda, 6 11-4 5 4S-P NAWTRODALY 16 (8) M Technolor 1 11-4 5 23P MAIST BUTZ 16 Mrs 0 Thomson 6-16-4 6 4 Solsgrth, 9-4 Master Bases 4 1 Rechart J Over 2 1 Master Sets 10 1 Must Sets 14 Masteroslus			

#### 3.40 WHISKY MAC HANDICAP HURDLE

freiton en di faj	
1 03-2 PALACEGATE KING 16 (S) A MINISTER 11 13	S Taylor (S
2 US-3 HUSSEL 40 JC.F.B.P Montach 4.11.8	Jantine
3 425 PARIAH 16 (D.S.) 14 Tadhiyan 4.10.:	) Catagra
4 5-63 MENSHAAR 25 (G.S) Ligono 5-30-1	W Downing (
5 4/2 BELLS HELL LAD 406 (\$) J Boroky 10-10-0	R McCaratin (
15-5 Palecogato King 2-1 Posted 3-1 Pages 4-1 Manufacture 8	10-16-16-17

### Alan Lee meets the former champion who has eased down a gear

## Dunwoody at home on quality street

ew sportsmen who have scaled the highest peaks find content-They pine and fret until frustration drives them from the territory they once commanded. It is a recurring syndrome, all the sadder for the wisdom that is so often wasted, but Richard Dunwoody is living proof that it can be conquered. in 1995, Dunwoody secured

his third National Hunt jockeys' championship and pled-ged that it would be his last. The title was secured despite mental and physical exhaustion, the twin strains of a failed marriage and an emaciated

He did not retire, though the temptation was great. Instead, he made a deal with himself and his sport, settling for quality in all things rather than the quantity he had so tenaciously pursued. He has never regretted the pact.

All that has vanished from Dunwoody's routine is the relentless quest for primacy. Good horses and big races are now his riding motivations, both here and in Ireland, and while he takes very few days off, he sets his own agenda.

Something more: he has got a life. Dunwoody makes time to indulge his other passion. driving racing cars; he has a social life divided arbitrarily between bases in Faringdon, the Fulham Road and Co Kildare; he broadcasts weekly on Radio 5 Live. Most impressive of all, he has become an ambassador for his sport. acknowledged by all jockeys

as their senior spokesman.

"People make too much of the difference in me." he said disarmingly. "I still feel the same man." Maybe so, but a worldly, assured version of the old, self-absorbed model. Having decided that he is not cut nut for training or wedded life. Dunwoody has found a happy niche, having discovered that there is more to being a jockey than riding horses.

As joint president, with John Reid, of the Jockeys' Association, Dunwoody has become a quietly impressive crusader. Sponsorship logos have long been a personal mission. "Seven years. I've been on about this," he said with a touch of righteous frustration. "It is so contradictory that sponsors' names appear everywhere, even on the horses themselves, but the jockeys are still so

some action in the spring. To back up his view, he has not been afraid to write long. articulate and pointed letters to the racing press.

Financial advancement is one thing, safety quite another, and Durwoody is similarly focused on the constant updating and development of medical facilities. "It was all very primitive when I started riding, although nobody thought too much about it at the time. It took a few bad incidents, leading to paralysis and even death, to wake people up to what should be

Since Declan Murphy sustained his head injuries, there have been great advances in



Richard Dunwoody, writing exclusively in The Times, compares the two greys whose names are synonymous with the King George and assesses One Man's chances of winning again.

the quality of helmets, but we must never relax. I am concerned about the new EU regulations on body protectors - the ones they are imposing are like armour and, with no flexibility, the risk of injury is actually increased."

Dunwoody speaks with emphasis and passion on such subjects, a man at ease with his position. "It is important that jockeys are properly looked after and I am happy to devote plenty of time to the

Time does not exactly hang heavy. In a sense, indeed, Dunwoody has never been busier. He is third in the British jockeys' table and fourth in Ireland, where he has already had more than 120 rides this season. His riding engagements, booked by his agent, Robert Parsons, are topped up by promotional work for sponsors and for United Racecourses, owners of Kempton Park, setting for Boxing Day's traditional meeting in which One Man. Dunwoody on board, will attempt to win the King George VI Chase for a third

Dunwoody talks with animation of the best young horses he has ridden this year and, inevitably, of the holy grail of Cheltenham in March. He remains a highly dedicated professional but, in place of the blinkered obsession, there s now a broader perspective.

Next summer, he will expand his involvement in Formula First Racing, 1600cc single-seater cars that are, as he freely admitted, "the first step in motor racing". Last completed in six with a best position of lifth. "The podium is the aim next year," he said. Then, some time, I would like to go up a stage."
Driving has been instructive

in many ways. "I had one particularly bad spin, in which I felt far more out of control than in any racing fall. I was lucky to get out un-scathed. And I have learnt how incredibly fit you need to be to drive cars. I've great admiration for the Formula One boys.

The overriding impression given by Dunwoody nowadays is that he has found peace of mind. "In the end, all I did was decide that the championship was an impossibility. I could easily have packed up but I had nothing else to do. So I have made the best of what I've got and, so far, it has worked.

"It's hard to imagine Peter Scudamore doing things this way, but I reckon he might have enjoyed his riding more if he had carried on at a slightly slower pace. I'm hon-estly enjoying it more than ever this season."

Scudamore retired spontaneously, one April afternoon at Ascot. Dunwoody has no such plans. "I think the trend for retiring early has passed. Jeff King, who was still riding past 40, tells me I could be better at 39 than I was at 29. That gives me another five years before my peak."



Dunwoody en route to victory on One Man in the 1995 King George at Sandown



Fast cars have provided Dunwoody with an additional sporting interest

BASKETBALL

**CRICKET** 

### Australia show cause for concern over McGrath

By SIMON WILDE

AUSTRALIA are battling to reach full strength when they set about trying to extend a remarkable sequence of re-sults in Test cricket in Melbourne on Friday, in the first of three matches against South Africa. They are seeking their ninth series win out of ten, the only blemish on their record of the past two years being a solitary defeat in a one-off match in Delhi in October 1996 when they were without their best bowler,

Shane Warne. The availability of all their best players this time would be an important factor against strong opposition and at the end of an exhausting year for the unofficial world Test champions. The match will be Australia's fifteenth of 1997, three more than the maximum recently recommended to the International Cricket Council

by the Test captains.

The punishing workload has not seriously affected them in Test matches. Australia began the year by inflicting an innings defeat on West Indies in Adelaide to clinch the Worrell Trophy, went on to beat South Africa and England in their own countries, and recently outplayed New Zealand at home. They have won eight Tests and lost four — three in "dead rubbers".

But elsewhere there are signs of stress. Many of Australia's leading players appear in both Test and one-day teams and, concentrating their energies on winning Test series, their form in limitedovers cricket has been below expectations. They have also spent much of the time left to them complaining about inad-equate remuneration.

Australia's main concern in Melbourne is the fitness of Glenn McGrath, who missed the last two Tests against New Zealand and has played only twice in six weeks because of a trapped nerve, an indirect consequence of a hernia operation. McGrath, who has had an outstanding year, went through two workouts at the MCG yesterday and will repeat the exercise today.

If the Test was tomorrow I'd probably be lucky to make it, but the fact it's still a couple of days away gives me a chance." McGrath said. "I like to take the positive approach so, if I'm feeling great and the body's fine, then I'd be hoping to play. But ultimately it's up to them [the selectors]."

Errol Alcott, Australia's physiotherapist, expects McGrath to go through a more rigorous test today to see if it causes any reaction in the nerve. McGrath has taken 64 wickets at 20.04 apiece in 12 Tests in 1997 — better even than Warne, whose return from 14 games amounts to 59 wickets at 25.20, but Warne remains the bowler opponents instinctively talk about. South Africa's confidence is

high. They have performed well in the one-day World Series Cup and last weekend dealt effectively with Stuart MacGill when they faced Australia A in Brisbane - although if they think MacGill bears comparison with Warne they are sadly mistaken.

ALISTRALIA (from): M A Teylor (captain), T G Billott, G S Blewelt, M E Waugh, S Waugh, R'T Ponting, I A Healy, P R Reitiel K Warns, M S Kasprowicz, G D McGratin Cook, A Skirnal

### England find their feet

ENGLAND Under-19 won their second limited-overs game in two days at St George's Park, Port Elizabeth, when they beat South Africa Schools by 47 runs (John Stern writes). ...

Having beaten the South African Schools Colts on. Monday, England are showing signs that, at last, in the

FOR THE RECORD

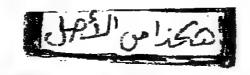
reaching their potential. Owais Shah, who had only been in the country for two days, made 67 for England, who were bowled out for 268 off the last ball of their 50

for 43 as the South Africans, who fielded aix players from the first under-19 internation-



### England Under-19 Women's World Cap Ireland v New Zealand CMSAY (New Zealand won loss): New Sealand best ireland by 139 runs NEW ZEALAND cities a MaDonald to Shift SOUTH AFRICA BOHOOLS urgh low ti Logan . .... .... \*Withers not out ..... \*Withews, not out ..... Extres (o.5, fb.8, w.21, nb.1) .... FALL OF WICKETS 1-121, 2-175, 3-213 EQUESTRIANISM

57 6-59 7-67 8-70 9-71 Bowler; Wichers 8-2-14-1, Nicholaen 7-4- 13-1: Brenn 9-5-12-2 Campbel 6-2-15-0; Michalaen 8-3-15-1 Ramel 8-0-36-2 Hackley 4-2-6-6 Hackley 4-2-6-6 Hackley 4-2-6-6	SCHOOLS MATCHES: Daily Mail under- 18 Cap: North: Fourth round: Lancaster RGS 5 Notice Fourth round: Lancaster RGS 5 Notice Fourth round: K Edward's, Birmingham 3 Ouncile School 24
WORD-WATCHING	SNOW REPORTS
Answers from page 29	Depth (Cm) Condition B Weather
OCOTE	L U Pists Office month (5pm) Last
(b) A resisious Mexican pine, Pinus montezunde, or its wood. American Spanish from the Nahand ocotl a torch. D. H. Lawrence, Plumed Serpent, 1926: "The boy sat apart watching the two gente.	ANDORRA Solder 25
terdies."	(Mostly good sking sveiable) sun 8 21/12
RAMBLA (c) A Spanish ravine, usually waterless the dry bed of an ephemeral	Kitzbuhel 0 75 hard harm
stream. The Spanish adaptation of the Arabic ramia literally "sandy ground". "Before we reached this rambla, coming around a series of	Obergurgi 80 120 good country slopes)
sharp bends down a hillside to a lower level, we were tempted by a	Soil 5 (Content skiing on tresh snow) . 22/12
combination of sur, dust, and the fortuitous appearance of a wayside venta to balt the Colonel."	FRANCE Along Cities and Straing on the upper stopes)
RUBINETTO	(Geografia and Varied good fine 4 have
(t) A tap, a faucet. The Italian word. D. H. Lawrence, Last Poems,	do // nond bar
1930: "The half-hidden private parts just a little brass tap, rubineum. turned on for different purposes."	Haine 35 130 nood (miss above 1,800m)
QUESRADA	Meriber 15 35 poor pone arthurn
(a) A mountain stream in South America. Also a ravine. Spanish, the	I HALT
feminine of quebrado, past participle of quebrar to break, "Nega morning I rode out on my mule, to take my last dip in the quebrada	Cervinia 30 - 200 good heavy good cloud 0 21/10
of the Loseria, which was a rapid in a beautiful little rivolet, distant from Panama about three miles."	SANTZERLAND Saas Fee 45 320
	(Very good sking on open pistes) varied closed cloud 0 21/12
SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE	(Fantastic skiring on Mont Fort; lower slopes worn or icy)
1 Qug9: 2 Qug5 Ruh3+ 3 Kg2 Rh2 checkmate.	Source: Ski Club of Greet Between on Ioy)



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Monday's late results

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RYMAN LEAGUE: Pull Members Cup:

Second round: Carahelton 1 Aldershot

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(Shelbourne win 4-0 on ago: 1 Schrizerica

DEMANSAI LEAGUE: Mathaica 1 Schrizerica

O.

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Bouvisie 3 FC

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Detroit of Boston 2, Montreel 3 Edmonton 3 (OT) Otlawa 4 Ny Islanders 1; Tampa Bay 2 S Louis 2 (OT); Los Angeles 1 Chicago 0

RUGBY UNION

MIAMI BEACH: Crange Bowl: Merc Under 12: Fixe round: M sen Garrenden (Hot) bt D Ayele (US) 3-6, 8-4, 6-3; JJ Rojer (Hot) bt P Mencilc (Yug) 8-2, 1-0 ret, Parill (US) bt C Tuscher (Austria) 6-1, 7-8; T Heyerdethi (Nor) bt P Joubert (SA) 4-6, 7-8; 2

FOOTBALL

## Smith graduates from Oxford to reinforce Albion

By RICHARD HOBSON AND RUSSELL KEMPSON

WEST Bromwich Albion yes-terday appointed Denis Smith as their new manager. Smith impressed the club's board of directors when he was interviewed for the vacant position on Monday and Albion were quick to agree a compensation payment with Oxford United, the club that Smith has managed since 1993.

Although Albion, fourth in the Nationwide League first division, said that money will be available for transfers, they were impressed with the way Smith took Oxford into the first division two seasons ago, and has avoided relegation since, on a tight budget. Smith effectively put all of his players up for sale recently because of the parlous financial situation

chairman, wanted to delay making a choice until the new year, but a run of four defeats in the past five matches has prompted a swifter decision. Those results also undermined the prospects of John Trewick, the coach, who had applied for the job.

Hale had originally targeted Joe Royle, who led Oldham Athletic into the top flight in 1991. However, after applying for the post, Royle subsequently pulled out to pursue the ance to manage Northern

Wim Van Hanegem, one of the leading lights in the gifted Holland side of the 1970s and presently the coach of AZ Alkmaar, was considered too big a gamble with Albion well placed to challenge for promo-tion.

### Aberdeen put majority of squad up for sale

By KEVIN McCarra

THE entire Aberdeen squad, bar two players, has been put up for sale. Alex Miller, the new manager, would probably be eager to retain only Jim Leighton, the Scotland goal-keeper, and Derek Whyte. who has just arrived in a £200,000 transfer from Middlesbrough.
Miller has invited offers. "If

anybody out there wants to give me a phone, they can do, he said. Miller replaced Roy Aitken last month and, although Aberdeen have not won any of his four games in charge, candour is serving as a substitute for points. "We've heard more common sense from the manager in the past four weeks than we've heard from the club in the past four years," one shareholder said at the annual meeting on

A realistic outlook, though, will scarcely be enough to restore the club to health. Aberdeen are at the foot of the Beli's Scottish League pre-mier division and debts of

around £2.5 million limit Miller's room for manoeuvre. Over the past few years, Aberdeen have spent increasing sums on a team of diminishing effectiveness. The poor form of well-paid players has also disrupted plans for a share issue, once predicted to raise as much as £10 million, but Aberdeen will now pro-

ceed with caution. The first

phase of a two-stage deal

should go ahead in the spring

and is already close to being fully subscribed. Some of the cash must be placed in the manager's bands. Although relegation may be unthinkable, practical steps are needed if it is to be avoided. Miller's announcement of a readiness to sell virtually all the players is, in essence, a symbolic gesture. It signals a willingness to be ruthless, but, in fact, other clubs will take little interest in players on handsome con-

tracts who have taken

Aberdeen into so drastic a

Coventry City yesterday completed the signing of Viorel Moldovan, the Roma-

er this month.

nia striker, for £4 million from has agreed a 42-year contract, but is not expected to arrive at Highfield Road until the new year. Moldovan. 25, led the scoring in group eight of the World Cup qualifying series with seven goals and will pose a threat to England when the countries meet in group G of the World Cup finals in Toulouse on June 22.

Ray Harford became the

club's eighth manager since

1987 when he was appointed

last February, but left for Queens Park Rangers in acri-

monious circumstances earli-

Tony Adams, the Arsenal captain, will not play again until the end of January because of a back injury. If he takes longer to recover than expected, he could miss England's World Cup warm-up match against Chile at Wem-bley on February II.

Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager, said: "He's been to see a specialist about it and he'll need to have the right amount of rest. He'll not be able to train for at least two

Gary Speed, the captain of Everton, is doubtful for the FA Carling Premiership match against Manchester United at Old Trafford on Boxing Day after damaging an ankle in

"Gary has handled these past few weeks very well," Howard Kendall, the Everton manager, said. "The pressure has been on him and the other lads but they've battled so hard in difficult circumstances. His injury is a prob-lem I could do without."

Norwich City have turned down an offer of £1 million from Crystal Palace for Craig Bellamy, 18, the Wales Under-21 midfield player. Jason Bowen, the Wales and

Birmingham City midfield player, has joined Reading for a fee of £200,000. Bowen, 25, has played for Southampton on loan this season.

## Hard Nock learns knack of winning

SARAH **POTTER** 

عكذامن الإمل



with some crabbily alliterative preconceptions of the National Hunt set (big bottoms, buck teeth, braying accents) as I reached Stow-on-the-Wold and the first steaming piles of horse-droppings. It seemed an effort to step around such prejudice as I pulled up in the damp fog to meet Susan Nock, the trainer.

An unexpected pleasure then, that the driving force behind Senor El Betrutti, perhaps the season's most improved horse, turned out to be such an engaging thor-oughbred in the finest Eng-lish tradition. Modest, humorous and quietly

courageous.
Nock, 53, should be preparing her eight-year-old grey, owned by her husband, George VI rard, for the King George VI Chase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day. It is no secret that the soggy weather might scupper their chances — he hates soft ground - but a crushing personal blow has made it even more difficult for Nock to focus on what should be her most exciting sporting A few hours after our

meeting, Nock's mother died in the Circnester hospital where she had been battling against acute osteoporosis. Nock and her two sisters had been sharing the bedside vigil for several days. "She slipped away late in the night as I held her hand. I was relieved it was so peaceful," she said. The family will come together for Christmas, but it will be a difficult time."

Seasonal goodwill has been flooding in to their Glouces-



Nock, left, has high hopes for her grey. Senor El Betrutti, at Kempton on Boxing Day

tershire farmhouse since Senor El Betrutti trounced the more favoured runners in the Tripleprint Gold Cup II days ago. A month earlier he had galloped off with the Murphy's Gold Cup at an unfancied 33-1. One happy punter, who wrote to say that he had bought all his Christmas presents out of his winnings, sent Nock £5 to buy the horse a gift. She speaks

with enormous warmth about such letters, though personal grief has dulled the sparkle of her outstanding achievement.

Racegoers who backed the grey for his second big win of the season might have put it down to faultless preparation. Not so, admits Nock. "I was getting him ready on the morning of the race, fiddling around in the stable." she said. "He pushed the door open, found there was no one around and went straight through the yard and up the

track towards the gallops. had visions of having to turn up at Cheltenham to tell the stewards that we didn't have a horse to run. You have to give a reason and, obviously. wouldn't have had a vet's certificate. I'd be forced to admit he'd escaped. Fortunately, he stopped to chat to the ponies on the way and they kept him occupied while I came up huffing and puffing

Nock's image is that of a bossy, scatter-brained ama-teur. Her friend and fellow trainer, Nigel Twiston-Davies, nicknamed her Hyacinth Bucket, after the character in Keeping Up Appearances. It is largely tongue-in-cheek, but Nock is happy to play the part. "People have really latched on to that," she said with a laugh. Some say it's very apt because I am bossy. I do spend a lot of time reminding the trainers about their general behaviour, but it's a tough life, so the

language gets tough, too."

She has only been a trainer for two years and employs one method that would not be universally popular. The only thing we do differently is that all our horses go hunting," she said. "It gets them fitter and they learn to look after themselves. It has certainly improved the grey

'I am bossy and spend a lot of time reminding trainers about their behaviour

horse. He used to be a bit of a wimp, but he's a lot tougher

Trainers usually claim that the toughest part is working for demanding owners. It is one reason why Nock has no intention of expanding. "We do it for fun here," she said. "I have one owner and he's quite difficult. I have to live with him as well and I just can't imagine having to take on any more horses or owners. As it is my husband who is the owner, I'm the trainer and the children are the slaves.

"We were all there at Cheltenham, in the winner's enclosure, causing chaos. It doesn't happen often, so we enjoyed it and made the most of it."

As I squelched back across the yard, I had to acknowledge that Susan Nock had changed some of my ideas about racing. We had forged a bond where I had not expected one. It was refreshing to meet her, no matter how many horses lift their tails on the road ahead.

## Test your knowledge with the Jumbo Sports Crossword

THE TIMES presents the traditional festive challenge of the Jumbo Sports Crossword to test your knowledge over the holiday period - with a methuselah of Moët & Chandon champagne going to the winner and copies of the sports book of the year for the

The sender of the first correct entry drawn will receive champagne to the value of £250 while A Lot Of Hard Yakka, by Simon Hughes, goes to the next six correct entries. A Lot Of Hard



Yakka, an amusing and refreshingly honest diary of Hughes's 15 years as a county cricketer, won the William Hill sports book of the year award for 1997. It is published by Headline at £16.99.

Send your completed cross-word with your name, address and daytime telephone number

I Pennington Street, London El 9XN

to arrive by Friday January 9, 1908. The solution and winners will be published on Wednesday. January 14. The sports editor's decision is final. Usual rules apply. No correspondence.



#### ACROSS

- I Send freed footballers to tackle the job (9)
- 6 Very able goalkeeper (6) 9 Burning bright in William
- 14 Southpaw, for instance (10)
- 15 See the screen from the middle 16 Second man to break the four-
- minute mile (5)
- 17 Paul, ex-England. Yorkshire and Essex wicketkeeper (4)
- 21 Lifts the ball on court (4) 22 Colin Cowdrey's nickname in his pre-skipper smoking days!
- 23 Child's pizy from this Lord's
- end? (7) 24 Billy, who captained and
- managed West Ham (5) 26 Go forth and fight
- Gunnell (5) 27 Hole 'n' in for a 1978 Dutch Norld Cup star (7)
- 39 Cabinet collections (8) 32 Colour of the prize for an
- WBC champion? (5.4) 34 What the board director may
- do for sport (4) 35 Span of sporting activity (6)
- 36 Where Juventus are at home
- 38 Walker Lynam! (3)
- 39 He has had 375 and 501
- alongside his name (4) 40 They have enjoyed a shower
- of rugby honours (4) 41 A hands on art (6)
- 42 Polish top scorer in the 1974 World Cup finals (4)
- 44 You can find golfers and racehorses on it (6)
- 45 Smart shop at London Road?
- 46 Appealing place! (3) 48 Underwood or Greig, for
- instance (4)

- line (3) 54 It often comes with the pain of
- defeat (4) 56 Number of goals once put into
- England cricket team (4)
- than most (6)
- Grand National winner! (3) 68 Grizzly North London defend-
- transactions (6)
- 70 Perrie, a South African break
- hound go (7)

Six runners-up win

- the net by Joe Payne (3)
- into boxing (6)

- OF HARD Yakka າສະຄ): ປ ເອນຄ

- Jumbo Sports Crossword Sports Department,

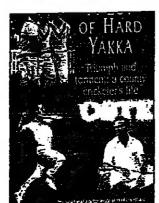


#### 49 It could be Chris or his brother Alan (3)

- - 57 Cup encounters (4)

  - 63 Chris Boardman does it faster

  - 69 American football transfer
  - builder (4) 72 Sporting deliveries (6)
  - 76 Let the punch or the grey-



SIMON HUGHES A Lot Of Hard Yakka

the heat of battle (5)

from the first bell (10)

with Neil Broad (3.6)

3 For anglers or cricketers (4)

calendar (6)

- 53 Make the effort to cross the
  - cricketing in The Parks (6)
  - Vienna and Lofty (4) Yale (4)
- 58 Promoter who has burrowed 88 Improve with the RAC? (5)
- 62 It often seems long for the
- 65 Level game (4.5) 66 There and back, a beefy
- 75 19 for 90 was his record return
- ple, is an Old one (7) 5 It can be gradually deflating for the GP driver (4.8) 78 Set the same time (5) 7 Far East Games (5) 8 Eat north for the captain (8) 10 World Cup winners for the first time in 1934 (5) Il Athletic and steady cueman Down Under (5.8)
  - 25 Place for horses, ropes and bars (9) 28 Did he have a large bite of giory with Leeds? (6.6) 30 Cricket tempo (4.4) 31 Ali stopped him in three

18 Trains the Oilers? (6)

was supreme (4.4)

19 Position in which Ray Wilson

- rounds in the capital (5.6)
- 81 Bridge of cricket (5) 32 John, a right back capped by 82 Dan held the ball for a change England when with Villa (6) 84 Where you will be if
  - 33 William Webb, of the historic hands (5)
- 85 Roaring connection between 37 Causes slight damage close to the green? (5.3.4) 87 Berkovic of West Ham, not 43 Stop for the upright (4) 44 Connor, who may not need a
- sweater when bowling for Hants (8) 39 It described Fred Trueman in 47 Mile for elite but sleepy 90 Rocky Marciano was this runners? (5)
- 50 England flanker who sounds better suited to the three-91 He really counts in boxing (10) quarters (4.4) 92 They figure in the rugby 51 Flanetled fool? (9)
- 93 An Olympic silver medallist 52 Leap to one of the fastest of all games (6) 55 A team that makes an exhibition of itself? (7.6)

59 Remains to be seen at the

- 1 Johnny Won't Hit Today! (7) cricket HO (5) 2 They get a kick out of sport (11) 60 Likely first punch from a boxer (8,4) 4 Matthew Fleming, for exam-61 A referee will often intervene
  - to do this (4,3.5) 64 What the driver is doing at the wheel (8) 67 Takes passing interest in

helping to create a goal (7)

- 71 Just the ricket for regular supporters (6) 73 Some people think it's all over. It is now! (4.4)
- 12 Club found in the east (6) 74 I slip mug for this old noble 13 Was he once the fastest man art (8) 77 Sam. who handled with care about the House? (9.3) at The Valley (7)
- can turn to glass in the ring (7) 80 Stay composed in still yacht-20 Protests at the racetrack (7) ing conditions (6) 82 Finish the hole all square (5)

79 A long, perhaps light jaw that

Scotland (5) 86 Wimbledon's first black men's champion (4)

83 He is known as Juke Box in

COMPILED BY NORMAN GILLER

#### RADIO 2

FM: 88-90.2 MHz
6.00em Alsa Lester 7.30 Wake Lip to Wogen 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young
1.00 Ainstey Hamfolt's Challenge 1.05 Phil Collins' Groovy Kind of Music 3.00 The
Goon Show 3.30 Richard Allarson 5.00 So Here it is, Meny Christmas 7.00 Nick
Barractough's New Country Christmas 8.00 A Meny Maxmes9.00 Sing Something
Seasonal (r) 9.30 Alan Freeman: Their Greatest Bits 10.30 The Sedon's Pantomime
Tale 11.00 Carolis by Candielight 12.05em Patrick Lunt 3.00 Katrina

#### RADIO 3

6.00am On Air with Stephenie Hughes Includes Scarlatu (Cantata Pargoletto in Rozze Fasce); Tchalkovsky (Sulta The Nutcracker); Torelli Concerto (Grosso In G Fill: 90.2-92.4 MHz

Rozze Fasce); Tchalkovský (sute The religious); Total Fasce); Pokofiev (sute Lieutenant Kije) 9.00 Morning Collection: Stonley (Concerto in D); Praetorius (Six Braneles, Terpstchore); Brahms (Song from Fingal), Strauss (Also Sprach Zarathustre) 10.00 Musical Encourage with Garaint Lews Includes Edward Arthur (Tua m Orel): Bernsten (Pralude, Fugue and Riffs for Solo Clarinet and Jazz

Ensemble)
12.00 Composers of the Week: British Light Music
1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concept Live from the Adrian Boult Hall. The plantet
1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concept Live from the Adrian Boult Hall. The plantet
Philip Martin plays Liszt's Weinachtsbaum
2.00 Michweek Choice with Susan Sharpe. Call 0171-765 4308
3.55 Nursery Notions: Hey Diddle Diddle (3/5)
4,00 Clementi and Beethoven Clamenti (Pano Sonala in G minor). Beethoven

4,00 Clementi and Beethoven Clementi (Plano Sonata in G milnor). Beethoven (Plano Sonata in C milnor)
4,45 Turns of the Century Robert Cushman looks at Tony Hancock (r)
5,00 in Repertory The Times opera critic Rodney Milnes talks to Kurt Strait about Belmonte in Mozar's Die Enthinung aus dem Serail (r)
6,00 Schabert Songbook Gordon Stewart Introduces Fernale Perspective, Schubert's musical response to the love poetry of two female authors (r)
6,15 in Country Churches St Mary's, Finedon, Northemptonshire. Actrian Jack vielts a mc1-14th-century church with a remarkable Brary of very rare books.
7,00 Performance on 3: Messieh by Handel, Performed by Hillem Martinpelto, soprano, Robin Bleze, countertenor, John Martin, Ainsley, tenor, John Tomfinson, bass, the BBC National Chorus and Orchestra of Wales under Nicholas Kraemer
9,30 Poetscript: Christmas Day by Paul Durcan (3/5)
9,45 A Breath of Sumaner Netherland Wind Ensemble performs Mozart (Serenade in Eliat, evoleptis)

E list, excerpts)
10.00 Ensemble A recital by the planest Bernard d'Ascoli. Chopin (Preludes)
10.45 The Shellac Show with Jeramy Nicholas
11.30 Composer of the Weelc Prokofley (r)

12.30em Jezz Notes with Digby Fairweather 1,00 Through the Night with Donald Madeox

#### RADIO 4

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 8.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25
Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.45 The Nation's Favounte Poems 8.58 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Midwheek with the Times columnst Libby Purves
10.00 (Fill) News; The Garden (3/4)
10.00 (LW) News; Daily Service
10.15 (LW) On this Day with Geoffrey Wheeker
10.30 Worman's Hour Introduced by James

10.30 Worsen's Hour introduced by Jerni Murray
11.30 The Pictorick Papers by Charles Dickens, dramatised by Mariyn Read (1/6)
12.00 News; You and Yours with John Walte
12.25pm Beltylenon (6/6) 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One with James Cox

1.00 The World at One with James cox 1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News; Bethichem by Bernard Walter, adapted for radio by Meiville Jones 3.00 Festival Of Nine Lessons and Carole From King's College, Cambridge 4.30 Spruced Lipit The browatcher and naturalist Bit Oddie explores the plantation of the Norway spruce 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 Stx O'Clock News 8.30 Wildbrain (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers with Live at Leicester Forest East Service Station Arthur Smith ys host to travellers and triends as they pass through the service station. With redict Allen and Dittle Keane (r)

9.30 The Pickwick Papers (1/5) (r)
10.00 The World Tonight Special Debate A topical debate
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Playbook by Raymond Chandler (3/10) (r)
11.00 The Chaese Shop Presents... The Brandy Butter Factor A lestive

selection of comedy skeliches 11.30 Mildright Mass The first communion of Christmas from the Metropolitar 12.00 News 12.30em The Late Book: Christmastime at the End of the Road by Tom Bodett (3/5)

12.45 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

#### RADIO 5 LIVE

MW: 693, 909 WHz 8.00em The Breaklast Programme 9.00 Gary Robertson 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 News Extra 7.30 Muscular Prose (r) 8.00 Football Forum From Hearts Football Club, Edinburgh 10.00 Brief Lives '97 11.00 News Extra 11.30 Tales of the Turi (r) 12.00 After Hours 2.00em Up Al Night

#### WORLD SERVICE

MW: 648 kHz; LW: 198 kHz. All times in GMT. Ann. 648 Mbz. LW: 198 Mbz. All bries in GMT.
6.00mm Newsday 6,30 Europe 700day 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelf: The Glit of the Magi 7.30 Meridian Live 8.00 News 8.10 Pausa for Thought 8.15 Westway 8.20 Everywoman 9.00 News; News in German (648 only) 9.05 Business 9.15 The Farming World 9.30 Science File 9.45 Sport 10.00 Newsdask 10.30 One Planet 11.00 Newsdask 11.30 Sports International 12.00 News 12.05pm Business 12.15 Britain Today 12.20 Waveguide 12.45 Sport 1.00 Newshow 2.00 News 2.05 Outdook 2.30 Magamix 3.00 News 3.02 A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols 4.30 The World Today, News in German (648 only) 4.45 Britain Today 5.00 Omnibus 5.30 Business 5.45 Sees 8.00 Newsday 1.00 Newsda 5.45 Scort 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 The Works 7.00 News 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Paume for 5.45 Sport 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 The Works 7.00 News 7.07 Outdook 7.25 Pause for Thought 7.30 Multitrack X-Press 6.00 Newsdrour 9.00 News 9.05 Business 9.15 Brisin Today 9.30 On Screen 19.00 Newsdesk 10.30 A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30 wm From Our Own Correspondent 12.46 British Today 1.00 Newsdesk 12.30 Curnibus 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Maridian Books 3.00 News 3.05 Business 3.15 The Sporting Year: A Personal View 3.30 Journey to the Centre of the Atom 3.45 Children in Corversation 4.00 Newsdask 4.30 Europe Today 4.45 Off the Shelf The Git of the Magi 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Outdook 5.55 Music Steff

#### CLASSIC FM

Falc 100-102 MHz

8.00 am Alan Mann 8.00 Henry Kally 1.00pm Christmes Eve Lunchtime Requests
2.00 Concerto Bach (Concerto in D minor for two violine) 3.00 Carole from
Cantenbury The Architeshop of Cantenbury introduces a traditional service of carole
and readings 4.20 Jamie Crick 6.30 Newsnight 7.00 Smooth Classics 8.00 Evening
Concert, Waldisulful (Les Patineurs); Prokoliev (Writer Boriller); Svindov (The
Snowstorm), Leopold Mozarr (Divertimento in F., Sleigh Ride) 10.00 Michael Mappin's
Christmas Carols 2.00ama Concerto (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths

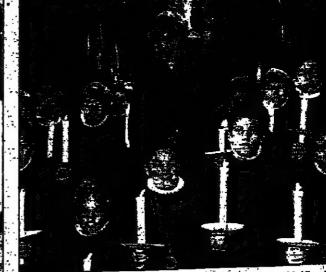
FM: 105.8 MHz; MW: 1197, 1215 kHz 5.00em Jeremy Clark 7.00 Chris Evens 10.00 (FM) Robin Banks (MW) Greinem Dene 1.00pm (FM) Nick Abbot (MW) Nicky Home 4.00 Mark Fornest 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyte (MW) Carrier Jones 10.00 Lynn Parsons 2.00mm Richard Porter

#### TALK RADIO

5.30em Paul Ross and Carol McGiffin 9.00 Peter Deeley 12.00 Lorraine Kelly Socces 4.00pm Tommy Boyd 7.00 Anna Raebum 9.00 Steve Hamilton 1.00







A forgotten teddy in Toy Stories (BBC2, 9pm); Mick Berry, Todd Certy and Chris Michallein ster in Black Velvet Band (ITV, 9pm); Deme Kirl Te Kanssen and the choir of St Paul's in Christman Glory (ITV, 11,15pm).

#### BBC1

7.00 am News (T) Regional News; Weether (2468927) 7.10 Teletubbles (2007453)

7,35 Model Mille (3447386) 7,50 The Busy World of Richard Scarry (6874873) 8.15 Yakky Duck (9731415) 8.35 Santa Claus is Coming to Town (6804927) 9.05 Janny Ouest (1897453) 9.30 Sweet Valley High (9983540) 9.55 Teletubbles (1399279) 10.20 News (T) Regional News and weather

(B857057) 10.30 The Never-Ending Story (1984) Fantasy adventure directed by Wolfgang Patersen (1) (97939)

12.00 Joy to the World from the Albert Hall (69540) 1,00 pm News (T) Regio

ws; Weather (50105724) 1.15 Neighbours (I) (73240502) 1.35 Problem Child (1990) with John Ritter, A couple discover that their newly

adopted son is uncontrollable. Directed by Dennis Dugan (T) (8982366)2.50 Raiders of the Lost Ark Filtri (1981) Epic, Oscer-winning Steven Spielberg adventure,

with Harrison Ford as the swashbuckling archaeologist. With Karen Allen (1) (88880502) 4.35 Blue Peter (T) (2666537) 5,05 Neighbours (r) (T)

(6948434) 5,30 Top of the Pops Special: Spice Girls The Spice Girls on Top of the Pops (T) (502) 6,00 News (T) and weather

(271298 6,15 Regional News (269453) 6,30 Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook Hale & Pace (T)

7.00 All the Best for Christman Ronnie Corbett introduces clies from classic cornedy shows including Steptos and Son, Porridge, and Bottom (T) (174095)

7,53 Perfect Day for Christmas The BBC's chart-topping promotional video (751142)

Humpback Whale: A Wikilife Special Revelatory film of humpback whales, weapon (1) (807347)

8,40 The National Lottery Draw (T) (219298) 9.00 The Naked Gun 33 1/3: The Final insult (1994)
Leslie Nielson reprises his role as police detective

Frank Drebin. Directed by Peter Segal (T) (1237328) 10.14 National Lottery Update

(442163)10,15 Harry Enfield's Christmes Chums with Paul Whitehouse (T) (962540)

10.55 News (T) Regional News and weather (108279) 11,15 Christmas Midnight Mess from Salisbury Cathedral (193328)

12.35 am Please Siri (1971) Cornedy with John Alderton as a put-upon teacher. With Deryck Guyler and Noel Howlett. Directed by Mark Stuart (319038)

2.10 Weather (6102057) 2.15 BBC News 24

#### BBC2 7.00 am The Phil Silvers

Show (b/w) (r) (2081415)
7.25 A Night at the Opera
(1935, b/w) Marx Brothers
comedy, directed by Sam Wood (1) (2792892)

8.55 Footlight Parade (1933, b/w) Musical set at the end of the silent era, with James Cagney, Joen Blondell, Dick Powel and Guy Kibbee (1) (33082873)

10.35 Easy to Love (1953)
Musical comedy with Esther
Williams, Van Johnson, Tony Martin and Carroll Baker. Directed by Charles Walters (72400188) 12.10 pm in Between Exploring the work of the British

choreographer Shobana Jeyasingh (8744417) 1.00 Deetry Fildes Again (1839, b/w) James Stewart stars in this classic comedy western. Directed by

George Mershall (T) (13521) 2.30 Reach for the Sky (1956, b/w) Classic biopic about Douglas Bader played by Kenneth Moore, Directed by Lewis Gilbert (2522629)

4.45 Everything to Play For Documentary series on the conductor Mark Wigglesworth (1/6) (724958) 5.15 Carola from King's The

Rev Dr George Pattis leads the traditional Christmas service from the chapel of King's College, Cambridge (1) (3105095) 6,30 The First Stient Night The story behind the carol Silent

Night (637) 7.00 Flatworld Animated comedy by the Oscar-winning British director the adventures of Geoff the cat, a fish called Chips and their accident-prone owne Matt Phlatt (1) (2328)

7.30 Christmas Open Rhoder Rhodes heads to Grenada to prepare a selection of seasonal dishes (r) (T) (521) 8.00 Two Fat Ladies Jennifer Paterson and Clarissa Dickson Wright prepare a meal for the Winches

Cathedral choirboys (1) 8,30 Third Rock from the Sun The Solomons celebrate Christmas (T) (3811) 9.00 Toy Stories Staphen Walker's nostalgic and affectionate look at

children's toys (547569) 9.50 Sykes Classic cornedy, with Eric Sylves and Hattle Jacques (r) (866434) 10,20 Arens: The Banana

Celebrities pay homage to the banana (1) (590347) 11.20 The Haunting of Helen Walker (1995) with Valerie Bertinelli and Diana Rigg. A woman confronts evil forces while caring for two mysterious children.

Directed by Tom McLoughlin (T) (947076) 12.50 am Carnival of Souls (1962, b/w) Cult super-natural horror, directed by and starring Herk Hervey (T) (1972748)

2.10 Weather (8902039)

VTH

5,00 am GMTV (2383540) 9.25 Tressure Seekers (3/4) (1893637) 9.55 Percy the Park Keeper (9983927) 10.25 The Forgotten Toys (f) (7046057) 10.50 News (f); weather (8402415) 10.55 Regional

News; weather (8401786) 11.00 To Grandmother's House
11.00 To Grandmother's House
We Go (1992) Five-year-old
win sisters are iddnapped
by inept crooks. Directed by
Jeff Franklin (1) (23579892)

12.40 pm News (T) and weather (15840076)

12.50 Regional News and weather (15839960) 1.00 Bugs Bunny (50109540) 1.10 Movie Magic: Wild Holly-wood How Hollywood has

used animals in films (9075144) 2.05 Close En Third Kind (1977) Steven Spielberg's sci-fi clessic starring Richard Dreyfuss as a man who encounters a UFO and embarks on an obsessive quest to make sense of his experience (T)

(50282873)

4.30 The Borrowers in the Making A look behind the scenes (2226989) 4.55 Regional Weather (9914569)

5,00 Regional News (9618) 5.30 News (T); weather (833279) 5.45 Look Who's Talking Now (1993) John Travolta and Kristie Alley star. The

mongrel puppy and a pampered poodle. Featuring the voices of Danny DeVito and Diane Keaton, Directed by Tom Rocelewski (T) (40678434) 7.30 Emmerdale The villagers search for James (1) (347)

8.00 Des O'Connor Tonight The guests are Torvill and Dean, Nick Berry and Todd Carty, Venessa Mee, Harry Hill and Jethro (3927) 9.00 Black Velvet Bund Drama

following the adventures of a gang of fugitives in South Africa. With Nick Berry. Todd Carty and Chris McHallem (T) (3786) 11.00 News (T) Lottery result and weather (286057)

11.15 Christmas Glory: A Celebration in Words and Music from St Paul's The Prince of Wales introduces a celebration of Christma With Kiri Te Kanawa, Harry Secombe, Richard Griffiths, Patricia Routledge and Kevin Whately (754892)

12.15 am Rising Damp (1979) sterring Leonard Rosalter. A movie spin-off of the Joe McGrath (821038) 2.05 Instant Replay '97 A look back at the last 12 months

in pop music (5188632) 3.05 The Chart Show (r) (1327019)4.00 Funny Business (86125) 4.30 Carnival of the Animais (r)

(95564)5.00 The Making of Hercules (1) (71496) 5.30 Talespin (6129309)

#### CENTRAL

As HTV West except 4.30pm 24 Hours (618) 5.00-5.30 Central News

11.14-11.15 Weather (741569) 12.15am Film: Miss Rose

White (821038) 3.05 Film: Henry Vill and His Six Wives (1972) staming Keith Michell, Donald Pleasance and Charlotte Rampling, directed by Waris Hussein

(84644670) 5.20 Talespin (8685583)

As HTV West except: 4.30pm Laugh with the Carry

5.00-5.30 Westcountry Live 12.15em Film: Wese Rose White (821038)

As HTV West except: ... 4.30pm-5.30 Merklen Tonight (64796)

As HTV West except: 12.49 Anglie Air Wetch (15858095)

4.30 The Making of Men in Black (618) 5.00 Anglia News (9618).

Starts: 6.00em Dumb and Dumber (4830057) 6.10 Ovide (4415415) 5,35 Madeline (6148786)

7.00 The Babyettlers' Club (9154618) 7.35 Two Stupid Dogs

8.00 The Big Breekfast (64182) 10.00 Film: The Great Race (51544601) 12.45pm The Pink Pentiner

(46745231) 1,00 Slot Meithrin (80618) 1.30 Frances Blaself's West (49786)

2.00 Film: The Robe (247705) 4.30 Nigel Stater's Real Christmas Dinner (960) 5.00 5 Pump (9891960) 5.20 Anturisethau Jini Me

(9811724) 5.40 Crefyddau'r Byd Wedi Eu Hantmeiddio: Bywyd Mohanmed (911057)

6.00 Newyddion (889366) 6.05 Heno (164298) 7.00 Gwyl y Baben (516057) 7.45 Ryan (487618) 8.45 Neiryddion (831569)

9.00 Sanctws (7231) 9.30 Un4gettable (60279) 10.00 Brookside (217502) 10.35 The Last Resort Revisited

11-20 Eurotresh (327873) 11.55 Babyion 5 (614811) 12.50mm Film: Only You

#### CHANNEL 4

6.10 am Ovide (†) (4415415) 6.35 Madeline (\*) (6148796) 7.00 The Babysitters Club (r) (81347) 7.30 Two. Stupid Dogs (r) (93182) 6.00 The Big Breekfast

(64182) 10.00 Zig and Zag's Big Morning (8879279) 10.01 Smudge (74569) 10.30 Dennis (r) (5529076) 10.45 Tom and Jenry: The

Movie Feature-length animation (1992) (447250) 12.15 pm Light Lunch (t) (1)

1.20 Frances Bisself's West Country Ctristmes Mincernest with a difference (3/3) (1) (34482778)

1.50 Ebble (1995) with Susan Lucci. A modern day version of Dickens's A Christmas Carol. A tough businesswoman loses sight of the important things in file. Directed by George

Kaczander (88900279) 3.30 All Crestures Great and Small (1974) with Simon Ward and Anthony Hopkins Based on the novets of James Herriott, Directed by Claude Whatham (903076)

5.15 The Snowmen Raymond Briggs's animation (879809) 5.45 Andre (1994) with Keith Carradirie. An animal loving tantily take care of an orphan seal. Directed by George Miller (T) (40676076)

7.30 The Real Nativity Show Six stories filmed on location at different nativity plays around the country (T) (91304) 8.30 Brookelde (T) (5279)

9.00 Five Go Mad in Dorset. Hilarious spoof on Enid Blyton's classic characters Starting Dawn French, Jennifer Saunders; Adrien Edmondson and Kalth Allen (r) (T) (67260% - 19:3009). 9.40 The Last Resort Revisited with Jonathan Ross (T)

(802434) 10.25 Whose Line is it Arrys Improvisation (r) (779569) 10.55 Eurotrash: Christmas Special with Antoine de

11.25 Only You (1992) with Andrew McCarthy and Kelly Preston. Romantic cornedy about a young man dumped by his girl who takes a saxy young thing on holiday, directed by Belly Thomas (773569)

1.05 am Mr Vampire II (1986) with Youn Blac and Wong Stu Fung. Adventures of a vampire hunting Taoist priest, Directed by Lau

Koon Wai (168767) . . . 2.45 J'Acquee: Santa Claus (r) (1) (21458)

3.15 Naght Nurse (1931, b/w)
Film Clark Geble. A nurse stumbles on a plot to lift." two children in order to stee their inheritance. Directed by William A. Weliman (6538106) 4.30 Baby Face (1933, b/w) with

Barbara Stanwyck as an adventuress. Directed by

Alfred Green (9059922)

Millows (56258796) 6.50 Mr . . . . Men and Little Miss (30314589) 7.00 Wimzie's House (7700809) 7.30 Alvin and the Chipmunics (2550106) 8.00 Havelezzoo (5809273) 6.30 Adventures of the Bush Patrol (r) (6259714) 9.00 Stickin' Around (r) (2554106) 9.30 Kablami (r) (1387960) 10.00 George of the Juncie (7849298)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 am Dappledown Farm

(r) (7816231) 6.30 The Wind in the ...

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10.25 Ugly Duckling (1997)
Animaled version of Hans
Christian Andersen's feiry. tale (36931521) 12.00 The Bold and the

Beautiful (1) (2559/ Family Affairs (r) (1) (1398076) 1.05 Scrooge: A Christman
Carol (1951) Alistar Sim
stars in Dickens's classic
Ciristmas tale. Directed by
Brian Dissmond Hurst
(34620673)

on nurses an injured

(62749182): 4.35 The Maiding of SpiceWorld: The Movie (66208366) 5.05 Xene: Warrior Princess (6147960)

6.09 109 Per Cent (4544453) 8.30 Femily Affairs Jack and Maria are caught in a compromising position (I) (4535705) 7.00 The Tim Vine Christin

Present Comedy, music and entertainment with a host of special guests dropping in (8540057) 8.00 Instant Gardens (5912388) 8.30 100 Per Cent: Christmas Special (5991873) 9.00 Christmas Romance

(1969) Romantic drama with Gregory Herrison: Awidow talen on herd times finds : romance with banker who is: 1 about to reposeess her house. Directed by Sheldon Larry (32329724)

10.50 The Jack Docherty Show 11.35 Big Bed Mams II (1987) Robert Culp and Julie with Angle Dickinson. McCullogh. Sequel to Roger Committee culticlassic.

Directed by Jim Wynorski (8368906) 1.10 am Whoever Slew Auntie Roo? (1971) Chiller with Shelley Winters and Lional Jeffries, Directed by Curtis

Harrington (6950729) 2.50 Dameel In Distress (1937, blw) with Fred Astaire, Joan Fontaine and Gracle Allen. Drama about a case of mistaken identity. Directed . by George Stevens (1090038)

4.30 The Road (90916816) 4.40 Christmas Snow (1985) with Sid Caesar, Katharine Helmond and Melissa Hart. A landlord plans to evict a widow and her adopted children from the sweet shop she has run for 30.

### 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (7880816)

 For further listings see Saturday's Vision

SKY 1 6.00mm Momming Glory (755569) 9.00 Hotel (52434) 10.00 Another World (11502) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (31366) 12.00 Oprah Whitney (82344) 1.000 Another World (11502) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (31366) 12.00 Oprah Whitney (82345) 4.00 Oprah Whitney (82345) 4.00 Oprah Whitney (56555) 5.00 Shar Tiret Voyagor (1231) 6.00 Droam Team. (7821) 6.00 Married., with Children (8273) 7.00 The Simpsota Sig Night Out (20347) 9.00 Married., with Children (35521) 10.00 Biza Uncovered (45508) 11.00 Star Tiret Voyagor (12231) 12.00 Lab Show with David Listiuman (15554) 1.00mm in the Host of the Night (75308) 2.00 Long Play (5854570) (15254) 1.00em in the Host of the (75309) 2.00 Long Play (5864670)

Sky's pay-per-view movie channels. To viow any firm telephone 0990 800888. Each firm costs \$2.99 per viewing SKY BOA OFFICE 1 (Transponder 26) Jangle All the Way (1986) SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) Chain Reaction (1995) SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) The First Wives' Club (1995 SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 5 The Cross City of Angels (1996) SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

SKY BOX OFFICE

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8.00mm The Nativity (1973) (70095) 7.30 An American Christmas Carol (1979) (25786) 9.30 Devid Copperfield (1970) (98057) 11.30 Sgr Billio (1996) (85095) 1.00pm An American Christmas Carol (95057) 11.30 Sgt Bilke (1996) (85055) 1.00pm An American Christman. Carol (1979) (75360 3.00 The Karata Kid III (1989) (11347) 5.00 Miracle on 34th Street (1994) (74938) 7.00 Sgt Bilte (1996) (18415) 9.00 Down Periscope (1985) (94785) 10.30 in the Black Bildutator (1996) (68319518) 12.15em. Protect (1994) (16545545) 2.30 Cleopatra Jones (1973) (37309) 4.00 Miracle on 34th Street (1994) (7603) SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2 6.20mm Rock Around the Clock (1965) (57535705) 8.00 Peter-No-Tail in America (4903415) 8.20 Scalley (1986) (27082637)

11.00 Christmas Every Day (1996) (58415) 12.30pm Ace Ventura: When

Nature Calls (1995) (92960) 2.00 Brothers of the Frontier (1995) (27502) 4.00 The Stars Fell on Hearletta (1995) (4705)

6.00 The Next Kerate Kid (1994) (47368) 8.00 Ace Venture: When Nather Cells (1995) (42811) 10.00 Heat: (1995) (24756057) 12.50cm Love, Chest and Steal (1994) (952767) 2.30 The Banket-bell District (1995) (806496) A.T. Christ-sus Every Day (1996) (830274) SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Acade (1981) (9683095) 6.00 The Toy (1983) (4725572) 8.00 Scrooged (1988) (4737347) 18.00 Severly Hills Cop II (1987) (9057908) 11.45 Francic (1989) (9704811) 1.45 cast The Hunging Tree (1957) (4057108) 2.35 The Greet Lover (1949) (72704944) 4.58 Close TNT 8.00pcs The Whard of Ox (1939) (56417521) 11.00 A Carletones Carol (1939) (8869279) 12.20cm The Philadelphia Stary (1940) (9219090) 3.00 The Witzerd of Ox (1839) (60551800) 5.00 Close

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00mm Scorts Centre (58057) 7.30 Wres-fung. Sholgun Challenge (19795) 8.30 Sports Centre (61057) 9.00 Tarton Extra (85637) 9.30 Aerobics (21927) 10.00 The 19953/1 9-39 Aerobics (2/1927) 10,000 file Footbalers: Footbalers (2007) 11,000 Rugby League Super League Super Lijes (79540) 12,000 Aerobics (65873) 12,30pms Soanch Primera Liga (70527) 2,300 Tenter Edra (4075) 3,00 The Footballers' Football Show (78144) 4,000 Rugby League Super League Super Time (57279) 5,000 Weeding Superstars (9415) 6,000 Sports Center (33714) 7,000 Football Coals and Stopper (29862) 8,300 Rugby League Super League (2992) 8.30 Rugby League Super League Super Tres (42637) 9.30 Fusbol Mundal (12279) 10.00 Sports Centre (76892) 11.00 Football Cools and Broopers (89095) 12.30am Sports Centra (76651) 1.30 Super

League Super Tires (97516) 2.30 Sports Centre (61038) 3.30 Clause

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00em Aerobics (9431182) 7.30 Sports Centre (9427989) **8.00 Sur**vival of the Fittest (5253144) **8.30** Fish TV (2041968) **9.30** V-Haz (736892) 10.00 Termis Rusadol et the US Open (3640657) 1.00pen Super League Super Innes (7235183 2.00 League Super Hodrey Bracknet Boes v Manchester Startt (5034450) 4.30 Goes and Bloopers (1630909) 6.00 Rebel Sports (7255927) 7.00 World Sports Special (2844279) 7.30

8.30 ice Wers (6225415) 10.30 Rucedate at the US Open (5259789) 1,30em Sports Centre: Xmas Sports (1026748) 2,30 Rebel Sports (2148274) 3,30 Oose

SKY SPORTS 3 .00pm Wresting (81173540) 1.00 Fish (81159960) 2.00 Superbouts (57451163) 1V (b) 199900) 2.00 Supercous (b) 45116.3, 2.00 Olympic Series (88099705) 3.20 Rugby Union Update (95707308) 5.20 Saingr Mathysia Challeage (2244075) 8.20 Powerboot and Jetsle World (28412308) 7.00 Fish TV (58407144) 2.00 Sport USA (54627076) 9.30 Windouting: World Tour (6) 181569) 10.00 Sportrasts 222058929 10.30 Time Golden Ace or Mathy 22205892) 10,30 The Golden Age of Mile Pacing (12561182) 12.00 Close EUROSPORT

7.30mm Footbalt Europeats (19908) 9.00 Cycling: Tour de France (45724) 11.00 Feetbalt: World Cup Lagends (71908) 12.00 Motorsport STW Touring Car Seeson Review (93778) 1.00pm Strongman: European Classic (15366) 2.00 Footbalt, World Cup Special (67144) 4.00 Olympic Garnes Maccolom (6724) 4.30 Meleconomic Motors Cup specia (67144) 4.000 Clympic Garnes Megizinis (3724) 4.30 Metersport Motorn-Megizinis (3724) 4.30 Metersport Motorn-Megizinis (51076) 5.30 Kennig El Masters (55328) 7.00 Fun Sports: Ried Bull Art Day (5540) 7.30 Footbell Pranco Baresi's Testimonel (48078) 9.00 Buring: Night of Prospects (58873) 19.00 Sumo Grand Tournament (51960) 11.00 Figure Sealing: European Championships (54163) 12.300en Cross

UK GOLD 7.00ms Bultonye (4169163) 7.26 Neighbours (4951339) 8.00 Christmass (202637) 8.25 EastEnders (5666532) 9.00 (2020) 1 433 - 1433 - 1535 - 1555 - 1 2896892) 1,90 in Sciences and in Height. (4071811) 2,16 Yes, Minister (6241452) 2.50 Robn's Nes (7160298 3.20 A Word with All (3241960) 3.30 The BR (3644908; 4.00 The Two Runnies (38476705) 5.36 EastEnders (1930085) 8.40 Beb's F.J. Easifinders (1930)96) 8.40 Bob's FL3 House (517628) 6.20 in Sciences and of Heelin (2503)255) 7.00 Dad's Army (547227) 7.48 Robert's Next (2777950) 8.20 Yes, Minster (6472517) 9.00 Only Fools and Horses (1469472517) 10.20 The BL3 (6574227) 10.55 FILIA: Carry on Decision (1968) (75027708) 12.48am The Equation (1968) (75027708) 12.48am The Equation (255670) 13.58 Migm Vice (2732222) 2.25 Shootom (46879748)

GRANADA PLUS 6.00mm The Box (8875618) 7.00 Corona-tion Si (882873) 7.30 Families (6201908) 8.00 Sind Date (6825927) 8.00 Wishin These Walls (4757296) 16.00 Constant (520682) 17.00 Hart to Hert 6287289 12.00 Coronation St (8628250) 12.30per-Families (2193705) 1.00 Co for Bustess (6281144) 1.30 Presse Sirl (2192975) 2.00 The Good Guys (7706389) 3.00 Dometus (7930908) 4.00 Mission: Impossible (7919415) 5.00 Harsta Fire-O (3757571) 6.00 Families (7051829 4.30 Coronation St (7041434) 7.00 Blind Date (9757279) 10.00 Harst Fire O (9439146) 11.00 Cose (CAR) 1700 SIRT (6754546)

CARLTON SELECT (cable) 5.00pm Godoch (2230665) 5.30 Hey Dad II (23406347) 6.00 Stockbusters (26466907) 6.30 A County Practice (28410546) 7.00 Good-light Sweetheart (58412076) 8,00 Boon Christmas Special (56425640) 10,00 DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00mm Elmo Sever Christmes (15453)
7.00 The Little Mormaid (80279) 7.30
2.43ct Pack (99795) 8.00 Board Sporting
New Doug (83163) 9.00 Nightman Ned
13989) 8.30 Gergoyles (84279) 19.00
Pepper Ann (3872) 11.00 B4279) 19.00
Pepper Ann (3872) 11.00 Boy Moets
World (10499) 11.30 Brofamy Love (8056)
9.2.80 The World's Vesses (24571) 2 Show World (10499) 11.30 Brotherly Love (60958) 12.00 The Worlder Years (21453) 12.309 The Worlder Years (21453) 12.309 The Morris (10406) 1.00 FR.Mc Mars Sente Clinic (1096) (40279) 2.30 Whrete the Poph (21532) 2.31 Whrete the Poph (21532) 2.33 Whrete the Poph (21532) 2.30 Recess (240752) 3.35 World (254752) 3.40 Eard Sportering New Doug (7162 5.40 Small Cay (2520 S.30 Student Bother (2520 S.30 Student Bother (2520 S.30 Student Bother (2520 S.30 Student (2520 S.30 Stud FILLE The Hightmere Bafore Christmes (1983) (8974095) 9,10 Mickey Mouse's Christings Carol (432365) 9.46 Dinosa (637057) 10.60 Cince FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00em Noel (4099960) 8.30 Dudley the

Cragon (737/415) 7.80 Hypermen (5940540) 7.30 Power Rangers Zeo (5838347) 8.00 Eig Saxi Beetleborgs (5872980) 8.30 Masked Roder (5871231)

\$.00 Ace Ventura (5895811) \$.30 Casper (3416618) 10.00 The Tick (7391095) 10.30

SATELLITE AND CABLE

(5845095) 12.00 Incredible Hulk (5882347) 12.30pm Life with Loure (2410434) 1.00 Gadget Boy (5849811) 1.30 Samusai Pizza Cats (3419705) 2.00 VR Troopers (2883183) 2.30 Fig Bad Beatheorge (282239) 2.30 Fig Bad Beatheorge (282239) 2.30 Mediud Rider (220027) 4.90 Aca Ventura (2229434) 4.30 Cesper (225618) 3.30 The Tick (2854415) 8.30 X Men (2269296) 6.00 Home to Rent (223911) 6.30 Sweet Valley High (220163) 7.00 Close TCC 6.00am Happily Ever After (34076) 6.30
Bobby's World (55096) 7.30 Spirou (8945))
7.30 Darwis the Menace (69803) 8.00
Batters (24540) 8.30 Batters (23511) 9.00
Earthwarn Jim (14163) 9.30 Romald the Rendeer (1074962) 2.48 Romald the Rendeer (1074967) 10.00 Occar's Orthostra (46347) 10.30 Plasth Gordon (10347) 11.00 Express of Orthostra (46347) 10.30 Plasth Gordon (10347) 11.00 Express (15764) 1.20 Batters (15764) 1.20 Batters (15764) 1.30 Al's Time Tigwillett (3564) 2.00 Exogoud (2144) 2.30 Plasth Gordon (1732) 3.00 Sonce (1279) 3.30 Earthworth Jim (2337) 4.00 Decres the Merisca (1144) 4.30 Batters (7320) 5.00 Close
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CARTOON NETWORK All your fevourile carbons broadcast from 6.00em to 9.00em, worm does a work

NICKELODEON 8.00mm WOW (89502) 8.30 WOW (88534) 7.00 WOW (89327) 7.30 WOW (88434) 8.00 WOW (80326) 8.36 WOW (92927) 9.00 WOW (83279) 8.30 WOW (29569) 10.00 WOW (52579 3.30 YOW (25568) 10.00 WOW (52521) 10.30 WOW (72163) 11.00 WOW (64569) 11.30 WOW (65298) 12.00 YOW (64569) 13.30pm WOW (90057) 1.00 Alex Mack (8629) 1.30 Canssa (96228) 2.00 Pete and Pate (7258) Carrista (1962a) 200 Petra and Patter (1964) 2,200 Kaistami (2619) 3,00 Bally Ripper's POV (6705) 3,30 Capitol Critices (7163) 4,00 Junuariji (1986) 4,30 Rugrats (5182) 3,00 Sator Sator (1980) 4,30 Rama and Kal (6/34) 4,00 Satorna the Teetraga Witch (3347) 6.30 Moestra (7927) 7.00 Close

12.00pm Swar's Crossing (887/0827). 12.30 Ready or Not (9171786) 1.00 Madeon (8998-34) 1.30 Cellorius Dreams (917/05/2) 2.00 Sased by the Bell (861973) 2.30 Swar's Crossing (982/237) 3.00 Disast (8680908) 3.30 Ready or Not (3038078)

4.00 Seved by the Bull (3641811) 4,39 USA High (3647095) 5.00 Hempitne (3865453) 5.30 California Dreams (386347) 6.00 Blast (3828960) 6.30 Madison (3642540) 7.00 Hangline (8852989) 7.30 USA High (364374) 8.00 Class CHALLENGE TV

S.00pm Cross Wits (8724) 5.30 Move on Up (1905) 8.00 Family Fortunes (1521) 8.30 Cetchphrane (2073) 7.15 The 864,000 Cusation (805569) 8.00 Spit Second (855144) 8.30 Kacacler Credenge (1415) 8.15 Winner Taless All (150882) 90.00 Treasure Hunt (29008) 11.15 Karacler Credenge (147328) 12.00 Sey the Word (50360) 12.30 era. Unit Credenge (147328) 12.00 Sey the Word (50360) 12.30 era. Unit Credenge (147328) 12.00 Sey the Word (50360) 12.30 era. Unit Credenge (48393) 4.00 Jingle Seit Rep (35545) 4.30 Allen's Pics Credenge (48393) 4.00 Jingle Seit Rep (35545) 4.30 Allen's Pics Credenge (74632) 8.00 Screenshop (80341) 8.00pm The A-Team (4814415) 9.00 Tour of Duty (4634279) 10.00 The Red Shos Dartes (8871521) 10.30 Italian Shipping Housewers (5051255) 10.45 FILM: City

On Fire (1987) (801911) 12.45em Tour of Duty (1020961) 1.45 The Red Store Defree (8289003) 2.15 Index Stripping House-wises (80754787) 2.30 FILM: Recommy's Prince Vision (1987) 1.30 Films (19 (4982631) 8.00 Stendy and Hutch (4882631) 8.00 Stendy and Hutch (4882635) 6.00 Close PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00µm Grace Under Fire (6788) 7.30 Fisserme (6811) 8.00 Elen (7434) 8.30 Cytol (6565) 8.00 Cytols (44705) 9.30 Ted (4329) 10.00 Firster (6414) 10.30 The Kerry Everett Show (73892) 11.00 Gayle's World (49250) 11.30 Elen (35705) 12.00 Roseime (12106) 12.30 tem Nightstand (73729) 1.00 Soap (39545) 1.30 Ted (73922) 2.00 Gayle's World (81449) 2.30 Grace Under Fire (19854) 2.00 Fisser (59305) 3.30 Tim Karry Everett Show (31928) 4.00 Close

(31928) 4.00 Class

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL 8.00pm Fil.M: Stepher Ring's Firestarter (1984) (3740250) 16.00 Fil.M: Steeping Dogn (1997) (8237714) 12.00 Fil.M: Little Devite — the Birth (1993) (6537372) 2.00pm Derk Stechook (7249729) 2.00 New Alted Hischook (7249729) 2.00 Finday the 13th (8031381) HOME & LEISURE

9.00mm This House (6983502) 9.20 The House (9173144) 10.00 The House (1241705) 10.30 The House (8989789; 11.00 The House (1679183) 11.30 The House (1679692) 12.00 Antiques Trail (898398) 12.30ptm Antiques Trail (898398) 12.30ptm Antiques Trail (898398) 1.30 Antiques Trail (8989909) 1.30 Antiques Trail (9178231) 2.00 Antiques Trail (8984347) 2.20 Antiques Trail (8986182) 3.30 Antiques Trail (8986182) 3.30 Antiques Trail (8986182) DISCOVERY

4.00pes Bush Tucker Man (3621057) 4.30 Fightina (3650669) 5.00 Ancient Wisners (8578927) 5.30 Buyond 2000 (3634521) 6.00 Wild Discovery (9192279) 7.00 Volca-nol (46419569) 8.00 Volcanol (4627969) 9.00 Volcanol (4630453) 10.00 Volcanol (4633540) 11.00 Volcanol (866057) 12.00 Lobis Elise — Project Mi111 (3736545) 1.00em Dissater (5532570) 1.30 Beyond 2000 (8819187) 2.00 Close NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Wild Christmes An African Aminorest (85/1056) 8.00 Wat Christmas: Save the Panda (859989) 8.00 Wat Christmas: African Rhino (8509453) 10.00 Wild Christmas: Big Guy — the Roida Pantine: (8502540) 11.00 Wild Christmas: Che: Sharks a Chance (9805786) 11.30 Deathtraps and Lifelinas: A New Look at Carrivorous Plants (7397279) 12.00 Janual Carrivorous Pleras (7397279) 12.00 Jenu-selest: Within These Wats (2481035) TRAVEL (cable)

12.00 pm Trains-aborten Reil Journeys 1.00 Gatherings and Celebretions 1.30 Beyond Borden 2.00 Snow Salari 2.30 No Truckin Holiday 3.00 Feet World 3.30 Cotamia 4.00 Australian Gournet Tour 4.30 On the Floation the Islands 5.00 Ridge Riders 5.30 Rathery Adventures Across Europe 6.00 Stepping the World 6.30 On Tour 7.00 Too Long a Winter 8.00 North of Naples, South of Rome 6.30 Portast of Instances 3.00 Holiday International 10.00 No Truckin Holiday 10.30 A Fork in the Road 11.00 Colless of the World 11.30 Real World THE HISTOODY CHARASTER

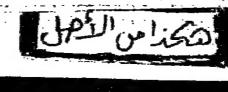
THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm Airborne (8729958) 5.00 Lost CMissellone (2838250) 6.00 Ancient Myster-ica (725527) 7.00 Biography: Sente Claus CARLTON FOOD (cable)

12.00per Food Network Delly 12.36 The Restaurant Show 1.00 Food for Thought 1.30 Wonal Thompson Cooks 2.00 Ross's Foreign Assignment 2.30 Food Network Delly 3.00 Alive and Cooking 3.30 Graham Ken's Kitchen 4.00 Aldo's Italian Job 4.30 Chef for a Day 5.00 Close 1 TURNIC LIVING 6.00mm Tray Living (9405340) 9.00 Lesley 8 Christmas Countdown (2122322) 9.30 The Gordon Ellott Show (6467453) 10.10 Jerry Springer (9354540) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (7764078) 11.55 Brookesde (49977453) 12.259mm Jerrmy's (7037415) 1.00 Chesp Chic (6157366) 1.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (3922076) 2.06 Hart to Had. (2461905) 3.00 Could it Be a Mirracle? (95517279) 4.10 Jerry Springer (4044521) 5.00 Rolonda (4559055) 5.50 Cheap Chic (3529618) 6.20 Ready, Steady, Cook (1777502) 7.00 Rescue 911 (9562522) 7.30 Mysteries, Magic and Mirracles (7593328)

(1775/22) 7.00 rescue 911 (Special 7.20 Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (75963220) 8.00 Jarry Springer (47248731 9.00 Filler Sorma Like 18 Hot (1989) (4727980) 11.00 The Set Zone (6134415) 12.00 Close ZEE TV 25E TV

8.30mm Prine Alam (67449328) 7.00
Jengran (84129328) 7.30 Ghoomes Asine. (84138183) 8.00 ZEE Business News (76445144) 8.15 ZEE Music (76468095) 8.30 Asine (22205821) 9.00 Marrabi (2227973) 9.30 Qut and About (81183163) 10.00 Tara (84134347) 11.00 Food Festivat: The Low Cal Show (35429163) 11.30 Tood Festivation (23494502) 12.00 Hum Pagnet (23494502) (35410415) 5.00 Alan Bhit Hot a Hai (24130847) 5.30 Teen Do Pagneti (2849869) 6.00 Hum Pagneti (28494502) 6.30 Al Time Hits (28418182) 7.00 Liberty (14235291) 7.30 Baregi April Bast (28418598) 8.30 Distant (18285796) 9.00 Pd (26409602) 10.00 Firm Baster (222183888) 8.30 Distant (18285796) 9.00 Pd (26240888) 4.00 Artificial Pagnetic (2849888) 8.30 Distant (18285796) 9.00 Pd (26268888) 4.00 Artificial Pagnetic (2849888) 18.30 Artificial Pagnetic (18285796) 9.00 Pd (18285888) 18.30 Artificial Pagnetic (18285796) 9.00 Artificial Pagnetic (18285796) 9.0 (94435487) 8.30 Destaan (19285796) 8.00 Pai Do Pai (58406602) 10.00 Film Bestein (22213368) 10.30 ZET Top 10 (22234788) 11.00 Ponish Kahetra (84135076) 12.00 Close 4.00em Gujerof Fil.M: Amer Rehe Tharo Chandio (51183564)

The 24 hour music channel VH-1 The video little channel



### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

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BBC1

5.25 Santa's First

(8403816) 8.00 A Monster

4735477) 9.40 Teletubbies

Christmas (47106) 8.30 The Demon Headmaster

4116699) 9.20 Casne

Castle from York Castle Museum (4403403)

10,05 Christmas at the

11.05 Willy Wonks and the

Gene Wilder as the

(1) (37572651)

12.40pm Peter and the Wolf The

Wolf (T) (5995293)

Christmas Show (1) (9493903)

3,00 The Queen speaks to the

Commonwealth (T) (7165496)

Presents (T) (2396816) 4.10 The Filintstones (1994)

John Goodman, Elizabett Perkins, Rosie O'Donnell

and Rick Morante bring the

comic strip characters to life. Directed by Brian

Bloomers (T) (147729)

with amazing powers (T).

Endgame Victor plans a quiet rural break in the West

neighbours Derek and Betty

8.30 EastEnders Tony discovers

Country to escape new

McVittle (T) (7027090)

10.20 Men Behaving Badly Tony and Gary's gleetul antici-

11.05 They Think it's All Over

Saux (T) (7:11361)

11.40 | Hate Christmas Too!

11.45 Airplanel (1980) Disaster

spoof about an ill-fated artifier, with Robert Hays,

and Lloyd Bridges (1)

with Kenneth Williams, Charles Hawtrey, Bernard

2.35 Weather (3087171)

2.40 BBC News 24

Bresslew, Joan Sime and

Gerald Thomas (3722779)

Terry Scott. Directed by

way to disappointment (T) (446125)

with guests Sooty, Matthew Corbett and Greeme Le

Contemporary Christmas

lable, with Semuel West

Leslie Nielsen, Robert Stack

a secret (T) (4903)

9.00 One Foot in the Grave:

Levant (1) (1649800)

5,30 Animal Hospital Last in

series (T) (651)

6.00 Auntie's New Festiv

6.40 News (T) (749125)

(95356903)

-5/10.10 News (T) (936125)

6,50 The Mask (1994) Jim

Carrey plays a timid bank clerk who finds an mask

1.10 News (T) (33566854)

1.15 Top of the Pope (T)

2.15 The Two Ronnies

3,10 Noel's Christmas

(714212)

Royal Bellet School's

production of Peter and the

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BBC2

6.00am Christopher the Christmas Tree (4493293) (1938, b/w) Vintage version of Dickens's classic Ghristmas (4309800) 6.50 cautionary tale with Prince Vallant (6136941) 7.15 Eak the Cat (3865903) Reginald Owen, Directed by Edwin L. Marin (6293545) 8.10 David Copperfield (1935, FILM D/w) Classic adaptation of Dickens with W.C. Fields. Directed by George Cukor

7.00am A Christmas Carol

10.15 Today's the Day Christmas Special Celebrity edition of the nostalgia quiz (138877) 10.45 Jinnah Documentary about Mohammad Ali Jinnah,

lounder of Pakistan (4394038) 11.35 Mrs Miniver (1942, b/w) Greer Gerson as the eponymous heroine who keeps her family together despite the ravages of war. Also with Walter Pldgeon

and Dame May Whitty. Directed by William Wyler (97931651) 1.45pm Everything to Play For (2/8) Conductor Mark

Wigglesworth examines the pitfalls of life on the road for solo performers (386293) 2.15 Shooting Stars (r) (378274) 2.45 The Simpsons (r) (T) (8304090)

3.10 White Christmas (1954)
Classic musical with Bing
Crosby and Danny Kaye. Songs by Irving Berlin. Directed by Michael Curtiz

(T) (36916390) 5.05 Close-Up on James Stewart Charlton Heston and Rod Steiger recall their tevourite clips (9681583)

5.20 Medame Butterfly Lavish version of Puccini's opera, Tunisia's Lake Ichkeul Soprano Ying Huang stars In the title role. James Conton conducts the Orchestre de Paris (88847944)

7.30 The Queen (T and signing) (884019)

7.40 Cardigans at Christmas Val Doonican heads the bill in a review of kitsch festive Hight entertainment (T)

8.30 A Christmas Dickens Simon Callow reads 8ob Sawyer's Party (231748) 9.10 Arena: The Cigar Film tracing the history of the cigar, from the tobecco fields of Havana to

Hollywood bars (531895) 10.00 Gogs Animated antics with the prehistoric family

(758816)10.10 La Reine Margot (1994) French drama about the St Bartholomew's Day Massacre of 1572 with

subtitles (14800187) 12.25am Close-Up on Jan Stewart (9410423) 12,35 The Asphalt Jungle (1950, b/w) with Sterling Hayden, Louis Calhem, Sam Jaffe,

1.10em Cerry On Loving (1970) Marc Lawrence and Marilyn Monroe, An ageing crook recently released from jail organises one last helst. Directed by John Huston (T) (266930) 2.25 Skiling Forecast (8401684)

HTV 6.00am GMTV (2350212) 9.25 A Child's Christmas (9942B35)

10,25 Honey, I Shrumk the Klds (1969) with Rick Moranis An absent-minded professor accidentally shrinks his own children, and those of his neighbours. Directed by Joe Johnston (T)

(95501816) 12.00 Father Christmas and the Missing Reindeer Animation (8338187)

12.35pm Homeward Bound:
The Incredible Journey
(1993) Two dogs and a cet
are left in the care of a family friend when their owners move to the city, but lollow. Directed by Duwayne Dunham (T) (84887699)

2.10 Play It for Real London's Burning actors Zoe Heyes Richard Walsh and Clive Wood sample life as real firefighters (T) (9316800)

2.55 News (T) (7474583) 3.00 The Queen speaks to the Commonwealth (T) (7150564)

3.10 The Muppet Christmas Carol (1992) The Muppets' version of the classic Dickens tale, With Michael Caine. Directed by Brian

Henson (T) (64226106) 4.45 Spice Up Your Christma Highlights from the Spice Girls' first live concert in Istanbul, Turkey (8572274)

5.50 News (T) (899309) 6.00 Emmerdale Doug has a surprise for Kathy and Alice (1) (87212)

7.00 Coronation Street Reconciliation is in the air for Kevin and Sally; while Jon divides his Christmas between his wite and Deirdre (T) (1816)

7.30 Home Alone II: Lost in New York (1992) Cornedy sequel starring Macaulay Culldn and Joe Pesci Directed by Chrls Columbus (T) (22012545)

9.45 Starting Blocks Chris Tarrant reveals how some o our sporting heroes started out on the road to fame and fortune (T) (814477)

10.20 The Bare Necessities Cornedy-drama about five redundant Yorkshire pitmen who end up working as male strippers (r) (356011) 11.15 News (T) (505485)

11.25 Mortal Thoughts (1991)
Thriller with Derni Moore,
Glenne Headly and Bruce
Willis. Directed by Alan

Rudolph (T) (711767) 1.20sm Entertainment Now (6372249) 2.20 The 1997 World Music

Awards hosted by Princess Stephanie of Monaco (r) (346997) 4.15 Coronation Street (r) (T)

(48688)4.45 Fungy Business (r)

5.15 Cartoon Time (2197688) 5.30 Tatespin (r) (6016681) 5.55 News (6026268)

#### CENTRAL \*\*\*\*

As HTV West except: 1.20am Annie Lennox: Live in Central Park (1534715) 2,30 Film: Two Rode

Together (1961), A John Ford western (230997) 4.25 Film: Ghosts on the Loose (9945775)

MERIDIAN As HTV West except:

4.15em Look and Cook (49688)

SC Starts: 6.00 Dumb and Dumber (4607729) 6.10 Ovide (4482187) 6.35 Medeline (6115458) 7.00 The Babysitters' Club

7.35 Two Stupid Dogs (8429854) 8.00 The Big Breekfast (68274) 10.00 Film: Dr Dolittle

(78149477) 12.40pm The Nativity (7007670) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (73210361) 1.20 Tomos y Tanc (73230125) 1.40 Diana: A Tribute (8956941) 3.00 The Queen (7158105) 3.10 The Snowman (7478309) 3.40 5 Pump (7101380) 4.20 Eden (9489212) 4.50 Noswyl Nadolig Siani

5.25 Shwci Bwci Bo (3894583) 6.00 Newyddion (790699) 6.05 Heno (610090) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (9458) 7.30 Me' Ifan Ma (512895 8.15 Nadolig Bryn Terfel

(2247632) 9.20 Film: Y Mynydd Grug (85636477) 10.55 Film; City Slickers

(70337019) 1.00am Five Go Mad in Dorset

(2903729)

(8608583)

3.10 Nappy Christmas (4256038)

6.05 Coronation Street

6.30 Heartbeat Special

7.25 Fair City (3435477)

8.20 The Boyz are Back (88354564)

City (9787309)

9.35 Film: Speed (2276380)

11.25 Riverdance Live at Radio

12.25am Film: Some Like It Hot

(4576572) 2.20 A Prayer at Bedtime (99579510)

(6584670)

(6075309)

1.05 Film: Bedknobs and

3.00 Christmas Messages

3.40 Film: Home Alone II: Lost

5.35 The Simpsons Christmes Special (829090)

in New York (6801651)

THE ! Starts: 7.35 Film: The Kid

David Alden's English 8.30 Film: Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus National Opera production of Berlioz's opera, with 2893800) Willard White, Louise Winter 10.00 Mass from the Cathedral (T) (46604583) of Lisioux (7401274)

10.05 The Queen Signed and 10.55 Urbi et Orbi (8485800) with subtitles (773583) 11.35 Christmas Eucharist 10.15 A Splice of Life: 15 Years (1434293)of Film on Four A look 12.20pm Michael Ball's back over 15 years of Christmas Special

Channel 4's films (340477) 11.05 Dracula Prince of Darkness (1965) with Christopher Lee in a sequel Broomsticks (87000309)

to Horror of Dracula. Directed by Terry Fisher (T) (975038) 12.45am Lust for a Vampire

(1970) Yutte Stensgaard as a vampire in a British finishing school. Also with Ralph Bates. Directed by Jimmy Sangster (565713) 2.30 Front Page Woman (1935.

b/w) Comedy in which Bette Davis plays a journalist in love with a rival reporter. Directed by Michael Curtiz (150864) 4.05 Fashlons of 1934 (1934,

b/w/ Musical comedy with William Powell as a New York couturier. Also with Bette Davis. Directed by William Dieterle (9581317)

5.25 Those British Faces: Dennis Price (r) (3462317)

#### STOP MILES CHANNEL 4

(6855318) B.DO

9.00 Wishbone (r)

(8606903)

Havakazoo (ri (9104485) 8.30 Adventures of the

Bush Patrol (r) (6387146)

Christmas Special from

(6859318) 9.30 Alpha Zone

Walt Disney World, Flonda

Stone Television premiere of Sir Paul McCartney's

first symphonic work,

Orchestra (39424629)

Botd and the Beautiful

(T) (52754854) 12.35 The

performed by the London Symphony

12.05pm Family Affairs (r)

6.10am Ovide (4482187) 6.00am Dappledown Farm 6.35 Madeline (6115458) 7.00 The Babyshers' (7883903) 6.30 The Wind in the Willows (r) Club (9114090) 7.35 Two (80553908) 6.50 Mr Men Stupid Dogs (8429854) 8.00 The Big Breaktast and Little Miss (r) (30374341) 7.00 Wimzie's (68274)House (5500421) 7.30 Alvin and The Chipmunks

10.00 Dr Dollttle (1967) Musical FILM comedy with Rex Hamson who learns to talk to the animals Also with Anthony Newley. Directed by Richard Reischer

(78149477) 12.40pm Diana: A Tribute Updated documentary shown four times on the day of her death (T) (1195922)

10.30 McCertney: Standing 1.55 The Roses of No-Man's Land Memories of nurses of the First World War (r) (T) (9248125) 3.00 The Alternative Christmas

Message Margaret Gibney, aged 13, of Bellast delivers her messeage of peace (T) (4911877)

Alec Guinness in eight

7.30 The Damnation of Faust

(40704106)

7.25 News (993019)

characterisations. Directed by Robert Hamer (T)

(30372816) 1.05 5 News 3.05 Verdi's Requiem with Update (89606309) Pavarotti From the Festival 1.10 84 Charing Cross Road Hall, London, featuring an Drama about the all-star cast including Roberto Alagna, Renée relationship that develops through letters between a Fleming, Lucina D'Intino, Roberto Scandiuzzi, the eisty American writer (Anne Bancroft) and a placid Philharmonia Orchestra and bookshop owner in London Chorus, under James

Levine (T) (67277421) by David Jones (67090922) 4.45 The Nativity A humorous 3.05 The Snow Queen's Revenge Feature-length animation with the voices of Christ's birth (6447090) 5.00 Countdown Special

Imelda Staunton, Julia Richard Whiteley and Carol McKerpie and Alison Vorderman face the Steadman (87480800) questions (T) (2922) 4.20 Moonwalker Showcase for 5.30 Kind Hearts and Coronets (1949, b/w)
Classic Ealing cornedy with

the musical talents of Michael Jackson featuring show-slopping dance routines and spectacular special effects. Also with Joe Pesci and Sean Lennon (46099800)

6.00 100 Per Cent: Abba Special (4511125) 6,30 Family Affairs Elsa makes

a speech (T) (4502477) 7.00 Night Fever: Abba al Karanka entertainment (2861125)

7.55 Xena: Warrior Princess (5743293) 8.55 5 News (6345767)

9.00 The Man in the Moon (1991) Coming-of-age drama with Sam Walerson,

Reese Witherspoon and Jason London set in 1947 Louisiana. Directed by Robert Mulligan (32396496)

10.50 About Last Night Romantic comedy with Rob Lowe, Demi Moore and James Belushi about two, lovers finding it difficult committing to each other. Directed by Edward Zwick

(57173361) 1.05am Crimes of Passion (1984) Ken Russell's darkly comic erotic drama stars Kathleen Turner and

3.00 Lord Jim with Peter O'Toole, James Mason and Eli Wallach, Adaptation of

Joseph Conrad's novel Directed by Richard Brooks (1753713) 5.30 100 Per Cent: Abba Special (r) (7784688)

FM: 97.6-99.5 MHz 8.00am Chris Moyles 9.00 Kevin and Zoe's Christmas Lie-in 12.00 A Very Scicey Christmas 1,00pm Clas Warren 4,00 Mark and Lard 6,00 All Back to Mine: Nocl Gallagher 7,00 Evening Session Best of the Guests 9,00 The Shirehorses Story in no Glastonbury Revisited 1.00em Charlie Jordan 5.00 Chris Moytes

#### RADIO 2

FM: 86-90.2 MHz 5.00mm Roger Royle 8.05 Good Morring Christmas 10.00 Ken Bruce 1.00pm The Dale Winton Christmas Show 3.00 The Queen 3.05 The Goon Show 3.35 The News Huddines Christmas Special 4.05 Giona Humitord Interviews Cilla Black 5.10 Chris de Burgh 6.05 Garth Brooks' Christmas 7.05 BB King's Blue Christmas 7.35 Divis Las Vegas Bette Midler 9.05 Broadcasting US Style 10.05 Bob Hams 12.10am Patrick Vegas Bette Mick Luri 3,05 Katrina

#### RADIO 3

FM: 90.2-92.4 MHz 5.00em On Air 9.00 Morning Collection 18.00 Musical Encounters Includes Bernslein (Overture Candide) Hoddinon

5.00am On Alt 9.00 Menning Collection
10.00 Musical Encounters includes Bernstein (Overture Candida) Hoddina's
(Fendgaid Nos.) Wagner (Seglised Byth Levis (Tawal Nors)
12.00 Composer of the Weeks British Light Music
1.00pm The Operatic Year with Huch Carning
2.00 Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols (I)
3.40 Nursery Notions: Hush-a-bye Baby (4/5)
3.45 Berodin BBC Symplany, Chous, Phihamnonic under Geoffsy Smors
4.00 Ensemble Bernard d Assol, peano Chopin (Pretudes) (I)
4.45 Turns of the Century Maureen Lipman look: at Joyce Granieli (4/4) (II)
5.00 in Repertory Verdi's 4dat 4/5) (I)
6.05 Schubert Songbook with Gordon Stewari (I)
6.15 in Country Churches Adnan Jack visits St Mary and St Thomas of Carterbury in Wymondham, Norlolk (4/5)
7.00 Performance on 3: Die Enthibrung aus dem Senall by Mozari With Christine Schafter, soprano, Paul Groves, tenor, Main Hartelus, soprano, Vienna State Opera Chons, Salzburg Mozarieum Orchestra under Mark Minkowski
9.45 Postscript: Christinas Day (4/5)
10.00 Music Restored With the Sotsen, under Mary Christophers
10.45 The Sheliac Show with Jeremy Nichola;
11.30 Composer of the Week: Prokofley I()
12.30em Juzz Notes with Digby Fanweather
1.00 Through the Night with Dorald Macleod

#### RADIO 4

PAI: 92.4-94.8; LW: 198 kHz; MW: 720 kHz
5.55em (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Breling 6.05 Something Understood
7.05 Joy to the World with James Naughle 8.05 Offspring Christmas Morning 8.45
The Nation's Favourie Poems 8.58 Wasther
9.00 News 9.05 Morning Service from Chichester Cathedral
10.00 The Best of From Our Own Correspondent
11.30 The Pickwick Papers by Charles Dickens (2/6)
12.00 News; Trumption Ricks Again in the first of two programmes, Fied Hams explores at in children's lefewison programmes of the 1970s
12.25pm I'm Sorry I Hawen's A Clue The best incremits from 1997 12.55 Wealther
1.00 News; Tushories of Hags Process
1.10 A Hack Follows a Star with Dylan Winter
1.40 The Archers (ii 1.55 Shipping Process
2.00 News; History of Magic An exploration into the history of Musica
2.45 Joseph: The Forgotten Father with Mark Tuly
3.00 The Queen The Caristmas message
3.10 Offspring with John Peet (7)
3.15 Word of Mouth's Christmas Cracker
3.45 Christmas at the Windermens with Clare Jenkins
4.15 A Rock 'o' Roll Christmas by Sue Teddem An unlikely altence is formed over the Christmas washing-up. With Jennie Stoller and Stephen Tomphurson
5.00 News; An Artisat in Sound 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Wasther
6.00 Siz O'Clock News 6.05 Offspring Christmas Tea
6.10 Live from the Crypt An evening of poetry, comedy, and music introduced by Ian Macmillan
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 Offspring Christmas Finele

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers 7.20 Offspring Christmas Finele 7.30 An Artist in Sound: Mr Flatcher, the Poet Piers Plownghi introduces a

7.30 An Artist in Sound: Mr Fletcher, the Poet Piers Plowight introduces a documentary he made in 1994
8.00 Batteries Not included 8.15 The Liquid Companion with Andrew Jefford 8.45 Short Story: The Seffiel Glant by Oscar Wide
9.00 A Hack Follows a Star (r) 9.30 The Pickwick Papera (2/6) (r)
10.00 News 10.05 On These Days (r)
10.35 You Probably Think This Song is About You (r)
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Playback (4/10) (r)
11.00 Ray Bradbury's Tales of the Stearre: The Day it Reined Forever (6/5)
11.30 Joseph: The Forgotten Father (r)
11.45 Tyndale's Christmas with David Danieli
12.00 News; On This Day Christmas Day, 1967
12.30am The Late Book Christmastine at the End of the Road (4/5)
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 & World Service

RADIO 5 LIVE

MW: 693, 909 kHz

MNY: 693, 909 lots:
6.00am Briel Lives '97 (r) 7.00 The Breektest Programme 9.00 Sportscall Live 10.00 Diams's People 12.00 Sporting '97 1.00pm A Test for the Windles 2.00 Up All Night All Day with Rhod Sharp 5.00 The A-Z of Entendement 6.00 Big Byte Gadget Special 7.00 Curing 7.30 Footbell on the Brink 8.00 Murray Walker's Fast Track 9.00 Extra Time (r) 10.00 Brief Lives '97 11.00 And Now the Wester 11.30 Tales of the Turf (r) 12.00 After Hours 2.00am Up All Night 5.00 Murray Walker's Fast Track (r)

WORLD SERVICE MW: 648 kHz; LW: 198 kHz. All times in GMT. of Nine Lessons and Carok 9.00 News 9.05 Business 9.15 Sense and Sensibilities

of Nine Lessons and Carols 9.00 News 9.05 Business 9.15 Sense and Sensibilities 9.30 Network 9.45 Sporting Echoes of '97 8.55 Pause for Thought 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 Discovery 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Children in Conversation 11.45 From Our Corresponden 12.00 News 12.05pm Business 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Record News 12.45 The Sporting Year A Personal View 1.00 Newshout 2.00 News 2.05 Cutiook 2.30 Multitrack X-Press 3.00 News 3.05 Sporting Echoes of '97 3.15 Washaway 3.30 The Vinlage Chart Show 4.00 HM the Queen's Christmas Message to the Commonwealth 4.07 News 4.15 Record News 4.30 The World Today, News in German (648 only) 4.45 Britain Today 5.00 Pick of the World 5.30 Money on the Move 5.45 The Sporting Year A Personal View 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Assignment, News in German (648 only) 7.00 News Summary 7.01 Cutlook 7.35 Pause for Thought 7.30 John Peel 8.00 Newshour 9.00 News 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 Meridian Books 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sporting Echoes '97 11.00 News 11.06 Cutlook 11.30 John Peel 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am Westway 12.45 Britain Today 1.00 Newsdesk 13.00 Composer of the Month 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Christmas in the Land of the Poler Bear 3.00 News 3.05 Business 3.15 Sporting Echoes of '97 3.30 Assignment 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 The World Today 4.45 Off the Shell High Spirits 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Cutlook 5.55 Science View

#### CLASSIC FM

FM: 100-102 MHz Fig. 1004-102 BMT2 8.00mm Michael Fanstone 9.00 Jamie Crick 12.00 Alan Marin 2.00pm Margaret Howard, Includes at 3.00 The Queen 4.00 The Charitable Trust Christmas Concert 5.00 Smooth Classics at Seven 7.00 A Question of Christmas Classics (r) 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Mappin 2.00em Ballet The Nutcracker (r) 4.00 Mel

#### VIRGIN

FM: 105.8 MHz; MW: 1197, 1215 kHz 6.00mm Jeremy Clark 10.00 Graham Dens 2.00pm Robin Banks 6.00 (FM) Paul Coyte (MW) Calmin Jones 10.00 Richard Porter 2.00mm John Hipper

TALK RADIO

MW: 1053, 1069 kHz 6.30am Russell Grant 10,00 Carol McGiffin 1.00pm The Games People Play 2,00 Dr David Starkey's Review of the Year 4.00 Tommy Boyd 8.00 Russell Grant 9.00 Fale Lloyd 12,00 Andy Wint 4,00am Mark Smith

#### • For further listings see Saturday's Vision

SKY 1 6.00est Morning Glory (218651) 8.00 Hotel (8959) 10.00 Nora's Christmas Gill (48922) 71.00 The Adventures of Sinbad (79594) 1.00 pm Geraldo (10594) 2.00 Sally Lessy Rapinas (24654) 3.00 The Queen's Christmas Message (5005274) 3.10 Jenny Jones S717870 4.00 Oprah Wintey (39123) 6.00 Star Treic Voyager (3293) 6.00 The Live 8 Show (5033) 6.30 Married. with Children (7559) 6.00 Star Treic Voyager (3293) 6.00 The Live 8 Show (5033) 6.30 The Nerry (9477) 8.00 Section (3309) 9.30 Med About You (54995) 10.00 ER (6800) 11.00 Star Treic Voyager (48657) 1.200 Lette Show with David Letterman (82084) 1.00esh in the Heat of the Night (9201) 2.00 Letterman (82084) 1.00esh in the Heat of the Night (9201) 2.00 Letterman (82084) 1.00esh in the Heat of the Night (9201) 2.00 Letterman (82084) 1.00esh in the Heat of the Night (9201) 2.00 Long Play (8798442) SKY EDX OFFICE

SKY BOX OFFICE Sky's pay-per-view movie chemieta. To view eny film telephone 0990 800868 Each film costs 92.99 per viewing

SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 29) Jingle All the Way (1996) SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) Chain Reaction (1996) Bon (1995) Transponder 59) SNY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) The First Wives Clab (1996) SNY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) The Cross City of Angels (1996) SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

6.00am Mappet Treasure Island (1996) (34917835) 7.45 A Holiday to Remember 4917835) 7.45 A Holiday to Remember 1995) (2508038) 9.30 Goldflocks and the Three Bears (1995) (86030) 11.00 Lock News (1994) (94306583) 12.45pm First Knight (1995) (21935496) 2.00 First Knight (1995) (21935-95) 2.00 Preview: Mappet Tressure Island (8250729) 3.05 Mappet Tressure Island recen present 1099) 90353319; 5.00 Loch Nees (1994) (1998) 90353319; 5.00 Loch Nees (1994) (1998) (4582) 9.00 Brawkhert (1995) (4583) 9.00 Brawkhert (1995) (4583) 1.35 Whon Setraby Connex (1995) (56690) 1.35 m Hercains in the Underworld (1994) (984526) 3.05 Reflections on a Crime (1994) (631997) 4.60 Goldflocks and the Three Bears (1995) (7203249) SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

(1996) (72545) 7,30 The Pebble and the Penguin (1995) (2757651) 8,45 The Swan Princess (1994) (562380) 10,15 Babs

100 miles 100 miles

.. .....

(1995) [63182982] 12.00 The Augel of (1995) (63182962) 12.00 The August of Pentrayhanin Awarus (1997) (39599) 2.00per A Welk in the Cloude (1995) (5962) 4.00 Bushwackold (1996) (5767) 6.00 Babe (1995) (64545) 7.30 US Top 10 (9729) 8.00 Goldennye (1995) (84623496) 10.15 The Rock (1996) (8717033) 12.35ms Don Juen Delikarco (1996) (19042) 2.15 Othelle (1996) (70457862) 4.20 Bushwackold (1995) (628510)

SKY MOVIES GOLD 4.00pm The Pink Pauther (1984) 9550787) 6.00 Back to the Potters Part 8 (1988) (4782274) 8.00 The Hust for Red October (1989) (49607212) 10.15 Dirty Dericing (1987) (8508458) 12.06 No Mercy (1986) (5762713) 1.50sm La Bamba (1987) (1823572) 3.40 Three Coins in the Fountielin (1954) (5510404)

TNT 9.00pm Christmes in Connecticut (1982) (56484293) 11.00 The Shop Around the Corner (1940) (32237309) 1.00am Go West (1940) (32115133) 3.00 Christmas in Connecticut (1992) (60529572) 5,00 Close

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00am Sports Centre (59212) 8.00 Footbell: Sooser AM Xmas (843361) 11.00 UK Strongmen (49699) 12.30 pen Footbell: Goals and Bioopers (74654) 2.00 Tennis Criff Rocard's Celebrity Tournament (62039) 3.00 Fishing: Martin Cup (88545) 5.00 UK Strongman (38361) 6.30 Footbell: Soocer AM Xmas (600979) 8.30 Tennis: Criff -Puchard's Celebrity Tournament (70038) 10.30 UK Strongman (2880) 12.00 Pishing: Martin Cup (99152) 2.00 am Torms: Criff Richard's Celebrity Tournament (1306) 3.00 Cause

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00em Tennis: Cliff Richerd's Catebray Tournament (4852816) 8.00 Morin Fishing (6127308) 10.00 Rugby Union. Satuté to the Loris (8841309) 12.30pen lee Stating: Les Ware (1021835) 2.30 Trans World Sport (2122593) 3.30 Tennis Rusadski at the US Open (4956309) 6.30 Rugby Union Satute to the Loris (848687) 9.00 Golf Edra' How the Dater Chr. Wee Wen (5247841) 12.00 to the Lions (8486957) 9100 GDR 202 1700 the Ryder Cup Was Won (5247841) 12.00 Trans World Spon (4769152) 1.00am World of Saling (9300881) 1.30 Futbol Mundal (4417976) 2.00 Football Goals and Bioop-ers (1934356) 3.30 Close

SATERLITE AND CABLES TO THE STATE STATE OF THE STATE OF T SKY SPORTS 3

12.00pm Wresting: Supersters (81140212) 1.00 Fish TV (81126632) 2.00 Sportrafs (8203813) 2.30 The Golden Age of Motor Faxing (65483767) 3.38 Rugby Union: Sakete to the Lions (56803699) 6.00 World Saking (28368600) 6.20 km Women: Devondate (28472380) 7.00 Fishing Martin Cup (84193360) 8.00 Trans World Sport (56890600) 10.00 Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (63683748) 11.30 Close

EUROSPORT 7.30am Triamion: Hawai Iromnan (39800)
9.00 Cycing. Tour de France (68654) 11.00
Footbalt: World Cup Legends (96600)
12.00 Motorsport. Le Mans 24 Hour (3038)
1.00pm World's Strongest Man (19458)
2.00 Tennie: Charity Exhibition Maliches (985903) 4.30 Fun Sports Red Bulf Art Dey (8832) 5.00 Motorsport; (9125) 6.30
Footbalt: Burger XI v Rest of the World XI (90308) 9.00 Bosing: WBU Heavyweight Championship (98293) 10.00 Sumo: Grand Tournament (98380) 11.00 Snootser Euroournament (98390) 11.00 Shooker Euro ean League (81583) 12.30em Close

UK GOLD 7.00em The Sullivans (4135835) 7.25 Neighbours (4848800) 8.00 Crossnads (206300) 8.25 EastEnders (6533274) 9.00 The Bit (4613835) 9.35 FALIA: To Dance with the White Dog (1983) (74021274) 11.20 The Les Dawson Show (8603309) 10.00 Crossna with Milliond (1923) (74021274) 11.20 The Les Dawson Show (8603309) 10.00 Crossna with Milliond (1923632) 11.20 The Les Davison Show (8603309) 12.00 George and Midred (1929632) 12.55pm Only When I Laugh (2853354) 1.20 in Scieness and in Health (404858) 2.10 Calf Richard in Concert (87555900) 3.15 Fallif Buggey Melone (1976) (46174563) 5.10 The Two Ronnies (27473867) 8.20 in Scieness and at Health (8830467) 7.00 Ded 5. Army (9770455) 7.45 F-B-De-H (1415928) 8.00 Only Fools and Horses (32670816) 10.45 Blackacider's Christmas Carol (8809498) 11.45 The Bill (8618309) 12.20am FRJAR The Fabuleties (9618309) 12.20am FILM: The Fel

Befor Boys (1989) (7277572) 2.15 Shep-ping (46777336)

GRANADA PLUS 8.00asn The Box (8835090) 7,00 Coronation Street Day (3894380) 7,01 The Ups and Downs of Stan and Hilds (6259545) 7,30 The Ups and Downs of Stan and Hilds (6261380) 8,00 The Ups and Downs of Stan and Hilds (6697835) 8,30 The Ups and

Downs of Stan and Hilds (8996108) 9,000
The Ups and Downs of Stan and Hilds (8697459) 9,300 Christmas on the Street (7772308) 10,300 Passion on the Street (7772308) 10,300 Passion on the Street (7998654) 11,300 Passion on the Street (7998654) 11,300 Passion on the Street (7998654) 12,300 Passion on the Street (7998654) 12,300 Passion on the Street (8908022) 12,30pan Passion on the Street (8908022) 12,30pan Passion on the Street (890825) 1,300 Life with the Duclaworths (2169748) 2,000 Life with the Duclaworths (2751108) 2,300 Life with the Duclaworths (7751709) 2,300 Life with the Duclaworths (7721870) 4,000 Lif

CARLTON SELECT (cable) 5.00pm Fil.M: The Little Match Gliri (1967) (22267632) 7.00 The Three Terrors. Impossible Dresm (56489748) 8.00 The Belderback Tapes (5488290) 9.30 Lovejoy Special (96738293) 11.30 David Bowle, Sansus Mooriight (56142767)

DISNEY CHANNEL DISNEY CHANNEL

B.DOWN Christmas Bues (9138532) 8.50
Microscopic Micro (244545) 7.00 Fill.M:
The Lion King (1949) (81922) 8.30
Mickey's Prince and the Pauper (21728)
9.00 Fill.M: Chilty Chilty Bang Bang (1969) (8441042) 11.15 Truon and Pumbas (1498814) 11.30 Fill.M: The BFG (57125) 1.00pm The Story of Sarta Caus (73670) 2.00 Fill.M: Robin Hood (1973) (2426767) 3.26 Disney Animaled Shorts (253509) 3.30 Fill.M: Mickey Moune's Christmas Gerol (1983) (1123) 4.00
Fill.M: The Uses King (1994) (25009) 5.30
Fill.M: The Santa Cause (1994) (65922) 7.00 Fill.M: The Restan Cause (1994) (65922) (111380) 8.15 Winne the Pooh and Christmas Too (175839 9.00 The Small Christmas Too (175

One (13125) 9.30 Home Improvement

FOX KIDS NETWORK

8.00am Noel (4066832) 6.30 Dudley the Dragon (7344187) 7.00 Hyperman (5817212) 7.30 Power Rangers Zeo (5803019) 8.00 Big Bod Beefleborgs (58-9632) 8.30 Masked Rider (58-9803) 9.00 Ace Ventura (5862583) 9.30 Casper (34-76090) 10.00 The Tick (7369767) 10.30 Home to Rant (586976) 11.00 Spederman (5812767) 12.20 Life with Loue (5859019) 12.20pm Life with Loue (5859019) 12.20 Bad Beefsborgs (2806853) 2.30 Power Rangers Zeo (285909) 8.00 The Tick (2821187) 5.30 X Men (2206781) 8.30 Sweet Velley High (2297835) 7.00 Close TCCC 6.00am Noel (4066632) 6.30 Dudley the

TCC 8.00em Heppey Ever After (61496) 6.30 Bobby's World (\*5125) 7.00 Spercu (60545) 7.30 Dennet the Menace (92380) 8.00 Behreer (2652) 8.30 Behreer (27003) 9.00 Earthworm Jen (41583) 8.30 Romueld the Reindeer (1041561) 9.4.5 Romueld the Reindeer (1045019) 10.00 Geora's Orches-

NICKELODEON 6.00em Rugrals (18922) 6.20 Rugrals (78699) 7.00 Rugrals (83019) 7.30 Rugrals (93084) 8.30 Rugrals (95684) 8.00 Rugrals (97748) 8.30 Rugrals (96019) 9.00 Rugrals (10399) 9.30 Rugrals (16361) 10.00 Rugrals (52651) 10.30 Rugrals (9232) 11.00 Rugrals (9233) 11.00 Rugrals (9253) 11.30 Rugrals (9233) 11.30 Rugrals (9233) 11.30 Rugrals (9233) 12.30 Rugrals (92477) 1.00 The

Pandear (1046)19 10.00 Cacer's Orchestra (85477) 10.30 Flash Gordon (47767) 11.00 Expegoud (36485) 11.30 Gagarter (85644) 11.00 Sprou (38019) 12.30pm Sone (58561) 1.00 Barnan (86816) 1.30 AL's Time Travellers (57632) 2.00 brogoud (4106) 2.30 Flash Gordon (2854) 3.00 Sonic (2841) 3.30 Earthworm Jim (4699) 4.00 Dennis the Manaco (3106) 4.30 Batman (2090) 5.00 Close

CARTOON NETWORK All your fevounte cartoons broadcast from 6.00mm to 9.00pm, seven days a week.

(900:50) 72-30pm rugrats (2747) 1.00 free Sooret World of Alex Meck (7509) 1.30 Clanssa Explains II Ali (26748) 2.00 The Advertises of Pete and Pete (9532) 2.00 (8767) 3.00 Captal Criters (3167) 4.06 Jumani (5822) 4.30 Rugrats (1106) 5.00

Sister Sister (3212) 5.30 Kenen and hell (2458) 6.00 Sabrina the Teenage Witch (2458) 8.00 Sabrina the Teenage Witc (2699) 8.30 Moesha (6651) 7.00 Close

TROUBLE 12.00pm Seen's Crossing (6847584)
12.30 Reedy or Not (9148458) 1.00
Madison (8863106) 1.30 California Dreams (9147729) 2.00 Served by the Belt (8818545)
2.30 Swort's Crossing (3884803) 3.00 9-2-5 (8820380) 3.30 Ready or Not (3806748)
4.00 Saved by the Belt (9318583) 4.30 USA
High (3614787) 5.00 Hangtime (8832125)
5.30 California Dreams (3605019) 6.00 T/
Six (3895632) 6.30 Madison (3819212 7.00
Hangtime (8812361) 7.30 USA High (361596) 8.00 Close

CHALLENGE TV

5.00pm Cross Wits (5458) 5.30 Move on Up (6670) 6.00 Fermly Fortunes (3583) 6.30 Catchphrase (4835) 7.15 The \$64,000 Custom (352361) 8.00 Splir Second (938018) 8.30 Karaube Challenge (3477) 9.15 Winner Takes All (646212) 10.00 Treasure Huni (43800) 11.15 Karaube Challenge (633748) 12.20 Say the Word (81572) 12.30em Moonlighting (5059) 1.30 Father Dowling Mysteries (75404) 2.30 FILM: The Hound of the Baskarvilles (1983) (74775) 4.30 Allens Next Door (38152) 5.00 Scieenshop (11133) BRAVO 8.00pm FILM: First Slood (1992) (4685903) 10,00 FILM: Rambo: First

| Blood Part II (1985) (1643477) 12.00 | FILM: Rambo III (1986) (3655355) | 2.00mm | FILM: Pirat Blood (1982) | (4131249) 4.00 FILM: Rambo: First Blood Part II (1985) (5034125)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00psts. Grace: Under Fire (3908) 7.30 Roseanne (2935) 8.00 Ellen (9496) 8.30 Cybal (8905) 9.00 Cheers (71125) 9.80 Total (30941) 18.00 Fraser (91564) 19.30 The Kerny Everett Show (55652) 11.90 Festival of Fun (7670) 11.30 Elen (5835) 12.00 Roseanne (76626) 12.30ann Nightstond

Roseums (76626) 12.30am Nightstand (37249) 1.90 Seep (93065) 1.30 Tax (32442) 2.00 Festhal of Fun (61539) 2.0 Grees Under Fire (40046) 3.00 Fraskir (7227) 2.30 The Kerny Everuit Show (84629) 4.00 Close THE SCI-FI CHANNEL 8.00pm FilM: Consn the Destroyer the Second Encounter (1991) (2532926) 12.00 FB.M: Bad Dreams (1988) (8756065) 1.35am The Making of Starship Troopers (6871978) 2.00 Dark Starlows (7136201) 3.00 Fnday the 13th (9935133)

HOME & LEISURE 9.00mm Screening Reels (6830274) 9.30
Total Fishing with Matt Hayes (9140816)
10.00 Salmon Run with Jack Chariton
(1218477) 10.30 Go Fishing (6836158)
11.00 Rax Hunt (1645835) 11.30 Salmon
Run with Jack Chariton (1645641 12.00 Go
Fishing (6850038) 12.30pm Screening
Reels (9144632) 1.00 Go Fishing (8869380)
1.30 Rax Hunt (9143903) 2.00 Go Fishing
(8821019) 2.30 Screening Reels (3807477)
3.00 Rex Hunt (8833854) 3.30 Go Fishing
(3802822) 4.00 Close

DISCOVERY 4.00pm Bush Tucker Man (3698729) 4.30 Flightine (3610941) 8.00 Ancient Warnors (844599) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (3601293) 8.00 Navior Story, The Real Lite Story of Free Wify (9152651) 7.00 The Lost World (4601941) 8.00 The Lost World (4687251) 9.00 The Lost World (4607125) 10.00 The Lost World (4600212) 11.00 The Lost World (9852791) 12 10 The Deep May (2690121) (8853729) 12,00 The Driven Man (3639317)

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Dive to the Edge of Creation (8570941) 8.00 Whit Country, With Horses (8556361) 9.00 Rivers of Life (8576125) 10.00 Arabia Sand, See and Sry Mountain Barner (8579212) 11.00 Wild! Life Adven-12.00 Searching for the Edizatoriestrals (4965688) 12.30am Borneo: Beyond the Grave (2176626) 1.00 Close

TRAVEL (cable)

12.00pm Trans-siberien Red Journeys 1.00 12.00pm Trans-siberten-Rea Journeys 1.0u-No Truckin' Hollday 1.30 On the Horizon 2.00 Worldwide Guide 2.30 The Flavours of France 3.00 The Ocean World of John Stoneman 3.20 Travel Live Tales Oft 4.00 Real World 4.30 On Tour 5.00 Going Places 6.00 Relikray Adventures Across Europe 8.00 The Frendship Drive 7.00 Arctic 6.30 The Friendship Drive 7.00 Arctic Wonderland 8.00 Cities of the World 8.30 The People and Places of Ainca 9.00 Series Relievy Journeys 10.00 Flights Over Spain 10.30 Appears of Life 11.00 Ridge Riders 11.30 Sports Sef

THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm Arbome (1529570) 5.00 Modorn Marvels (2803922) 6.00 Ancient Mysteres (7222699) 7.00 Biography Evita — Woman Behind the Myth (2385187) 8.00 Close

CARLTON FOOD (cable) 12.00pm Twelve Days of Christmat. 12.30 French Lunch 1.00 Food for Though 1.30 Worrall Thompson Cooks. 2.00 Indian Furchen 2.30 Planet Nosh: 3.00 The Restaurant Show 3.30 Graham Ken's Kitchen 4.00 From the Ground Up 4.30 Ross's Foreign Assignment 5.00 Close

LIVING 6.00am Thy Living (3700552) 8.00 Brodeside (6427534) 8.30 Ready Steady, Cool (6434125) 10.10 FiLM: My Fair Lady (1984) (27020699) 1.20pm The Young and (1964) (2702069) 1.20pm The Young and the Restless (4514729) 2.05 Han to Hart (2441360) 3.00 Fillul: Gentlemen Prefer Brandes (1953) (96569651) 4.90 Cheap Chic (39156125) 8.20 Leslie's Christmas Catic (39156125) 8.20 Leslie's Christmas Countdown (20342374) 5.80 PLIM: My Petr Lady (1984) (74874922) 8.00 Jerry Springer Double Bill (71565835) 10.50 The Ser Zone (8087729) 11.50 Emertainment Now! (8523813) 12.00 Close

ZEE TV

8.30mm Undriyun (67336800) 7.00 Jaagran (84013800) 7.30 Palestan Busi-Jaspran (84013800) 7.30 Palestan Business Update (84105835) 8.00 ZTE Business Update (84105835) 8.00 ZTE Business News (76412816) 8.15 ZEE Muse (76435767) 8.30 Ashaa (22273233) 9.00 Rang Bahang (22264545) 9.30 Asp Kramatch (81130835) 10.00 Mehabbal Ak-Mohabbal (81130835) 10.00 Mehabbal Ak-Mohabbal (8130835) 10.00 Matt Mast Has Zndagi (35487564) 12.00 Dastaan (22284309) 12.30pm Darsau (81134851) 1.00 Hhot PiLM: Namask Hatal (75819670) 4.00 Philips Top 10 (35487187) 5.00 Ex Aur Minute (58435856) 5.30 in a Jiffy (28464361) 6.00 Hum Pasnet (28461274) 8.30 Hoy Ha Ho (2846547) 7.00 Panchayar (48530403) 7.30 Chemagic (28481038) 8.00 News and Euronews (32235011) 8.30 Andaz (43580908) 9.00 Christmes Day Spocal PiLM: Virsuest (83173941) 12.00 Close 4.00am PiLM: Virsuest (83173941) 12.00 Close 4.00am PiLM: Surtya (83706626)

MTV The 24 hour source channel

VH-1



**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 24 1997** 

FA sanctions Boxing Day return

## Klinsmann in clear to play against Villa

BY MATT DICKINSON

AFTER waiting 212 years for his return, Tottenham Hotspur supporters yesterday hours until the moment that they could savour again the skills of Jürgen Klinsmann, They might get their wish

When he made his dramatic resppearance at White Hart Lane on Monday, it was thought that Klinsmann's ini-tial opponents would be Arsenal on Sunday. However, the Germany striker was yesterday cleared to make an immediate return to the FA Carling Premiership on Boxing Day, when Tottenham play Aston Villa

Alan Sugar, the Tottenham chairman, rushed to get the paperwork completed and the Football Association received Klinsmann's transfer certificate from their Italian counterparts yesterday afternoon.

Peter Barnes, the Tottenham secretary, said: "Jürgen is available to play at Aston Villa now that all the paperwork is completed, although whether he does play depends on Christian Gross (the head

coach]."
Klinsmann's appearance at
Villa Park would almost certainly mean a renewal of

Bosnich, the Australia goalkeeper who was involved in an aerial collision with him three seasons ago. Klinsmann was knocked unconscious and Tottenham supporters never forgave Bosnich. They taunted him mercilessly at White Hart Lane the next season and his response of a Nazi salute was deemed particularly insensi-

DAVED MILLER

Klinsmann is felled by Bosnich's challenge at Villa Park

TILMESTINO

CROSSWORD

No 1285

ACROSS: 1 Beggar 4 Dwarf 8 Floss 9 Refrain 10 Emu

DOWN: 1 Before the mast 2 Groupie 3 Arsenal 4 Defer 5 Amain 6 Finnegans Wake 7 Crush 13 Aft 15 Bye

23 Pools 24 Ewe 25 Asunder 26 Arena 27 Taboo 28 Mente

11 Ripen 12 Strange 14 Treble 16 Larvia 20 Excerpt

17 Appease 18 Violent 19 Stern 21 Crumb 22 Radio

ACROSS

1 "Twas the -\_ (5)

9 A meal: a drink (3)

10 Way out (4)

11 Rebel aboard (S)

17 Fellow-feeling (8)

22 Note of debt (1,1,1)

24 Minotaur killer (7)

**SOLUTION TO NO 1284** 

19 Solid: tricky (4)

1 23 Indifference (9)

Generous (supply) (7)

13 Unit of Roman legion (6)

14 (Horse) in the first three (6)

25 "... all through the - ..." (5)

"... before -, when ..." (9)

DOWN

3 Duty (4)

5 Feasible (8)

13 Sophist (7)

Moore) (5)

20 Slow learner (5)

1 Mother-of-pearl (5)

2 Decorate (food) (7)

4 University site (6)

6 Eccentric, improper (5)

15 Fr. country house (7)

7 Shadow-boxed; argued (7)

12 "... not a - was stirring. -

16 Shells (peas); oh dear! (US) (6)

21 Little island; little distance (4)

18 "... not even a -- (CC

two years later.

"We had many young strik-ers like Sonny Anderson, Henry and Djorkaeff at Monaco," Wenger said. "Klinsmann was nearly 30 and he wanted to go. If you look at his career, he has moved a lot. It is part of his personality to discover new cities, new countries. He is very intelligent, very gifted at languages and very curious. He was ready to leave.

ing belief that Klinsmann, despite being captain, is strug-gling to maintain his place in Bern Vogts's national team and that his move to the Premiership, where he is guaranteed first-team football not available at Sampdoria, is a gamble to try to keep his World Cup place.

One player who will not be involved in the north London derby is Tony Adams. The 31year-old Arsenal defender will see a specialist about his back problem and is expected to be out of action for at least a month. Wenger is considering sending the England centre half to the south of France to

tive at a club with such widespread Jewish connec-tions. Bosnich claimed that it was a joke that misfired. Gross refused to rule out the

possibility of Klinsmann play-ing at Villa Park, saying "maybe" when the notion was put to him yesterday. It app-ears increasingly likely, however, that his surprise £175,000 signing will not join the club's struggle against relegation un-til the weekend.

Klinsmann, who has agreed to cut short a fortnight's holiday he had planned with his family over Christmas and the new year, had hinted strongly on Monday that Arsenal were the first opponents in his sights.

It would be a return to savour, as well as pitting him against Arsène Wenger, who. as manager of AS Monaco, brought him to France and then sold him to Tottenham

Wenger's decision to offload Klinsmann in 1994 was a surprise, given that he had done an excellent job of replacing George Weah by scoring 38 goals in two seasons. nger denied yesterday that it had been because of a rift.

"I am sure he can do well for Spurs. He is a good profes-sional and a very fit guy. He is 33 years old and when you have a striker who lasts so long, who can play at the top level at that age, you know he must be serious. It is not a gamble for Spurs because it is short term. And he is cheap."

In Germany, opinion is not so generous. There is a grow-



Brad Friedel, the American goalkeep-er, who has had to wait five years for his chance to join an English club, hopes that he will only have to wait a few more days before making his debut for Liverpool in their FA Carling Premiership match against Leeds United on Boxing Day.

Friedel, 26, met his new team-mates

to gain one to play for Newcastle United, Sunderland and Southamp-

Now he has to prove to Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, that he is worth putting straight into the team. David James, the first-choice goal-keeper at Anfield, has endured some

creatic displays that have earned him; the nickname "Calamity James". Evans said: "David James's ability has never been in doubt in my eyes, but we

No I goalkeepers."
Friedel has his sights set on taking over the lead role on the international stage, too. He is at present playing understudy to Kasey Keller, the his move to England will help his cause immensely.

"It's taken a long, long time, but it will all be worthwhile," he said. "I believe that by playing here it will do my international career a world of good, and give me a great build-up to the World Cup finals."

## Fans hit out over power struggle

Seihurst Park on Monday night, the Premier League yesterday launched an inquiry into floodlight failures, which could result in every member club being forced to install their own back-up generator.

The League, embarrassed by the third lighting failure in FA Carling Premiership games this season, is awaiting explanations for the latest abandoned match, between Wimbledon and Arsenal, and could reduce or withhold the £252,582 facility fee that Wim-bledon earn by having the match televised live by Sky. The Football Supporters' Association (FSA) is threatening to sue clubs, not only for the cost of their seats, but also for

their travelling expenses... Sheila Spiers, the FSA vicechairwoman, said that she was astonished that no backup electrical system was in place and predicted that, as the cost of warding football continued to rise, spectators could resort to legal measures to get compensation.

stage of not just getting the other cases of floodlight fail-money back for a ticket. Clubs ure, Wimbledon will be asked money back it costs to travel to a game," she said. "We are in one of the richest leagues in the world and we couldn't organise an egg-box."

The other fixtures that had to be abandoned this season were Derby County against Wimbledon at Pride Park in August, and the televised match at Upton Park last month between West Ham United and Crystal Palace. Mike Lee, the Premier League



Hammam: free admission

to oppvide a fi the events of Monday night. Clubs have an absolute responsibility to ensure that fixtures are not disrupted and we will require a detailed statement on why that failed to

occur in this instance. "On the broader issue, we are concerned that floodlight failures have now occurred on three separate occasions this season and we are initiating an investigation into the facilities and provisions relating to the electricity supply at all Premiership grounds.

"A team of specialist electrical consultants have been asked to examine the current state of electrical equipment, the provision and use of backup generators and the de-mands on supply, particularly during televised games. We will consider further steps with our clubs once this work has been completed."

Jonathan David, the lighting division secretary of the Chartered Institute of Building Services Engineers, said

terday. "It's nice to be rated so

high, but it was obviously too

late for the draw. Maybe it

would have swayed it slightly,

appeared as though there had been a problem with the power supply to Selhurst However, responsibility for

the failure may lie with Wimbledon. Any failure to fulfil a fixture is a breach of the league's rules, unless the circumstances are outside the club's control.

Sam Hammam, the co-owner of Wimbledon, has promised to try to let the crowd of nearly 23,000 from Monday night in for free when the fixture is replayed, but added that he was not actually required to do so as the game had gone beyond half-time.

But Peter Storrie, West Ham's director of football. yesterday gave warning that there were problems with back-up generators, partly because of the space required. The chub has received advice in the last month that it would need two generators at Upton Park, one at either end of the ground, and housed in a special building, rather like an electricity substation.

147, made up by Spain (eleventh), Paragusy (29th), Bulgaria (36th) and Nigeria (71st).

"People said it was one of the easiest groups and a plum

draw, everyone seemed to jump on the bandwagon," Gorman said. "We knew it

wasn't, we'd done our calcula-

tions. Once you look at it a bit more deeply, it's a lot tougher than people think." England, at least, have re-

served further confirmation of

their new found status among the world elite, having risen

from twelfth place in the rankings at the end of last year. I think this is recogni-

#### England's selectors get vote of confidence

By Our Sports Staff

ENGLAND'S cricket selectors have had their contracts extended. David Gravency, the chairman, and his colleagues, Graham Gooch and Mike Gatting, whose agree-ments with the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) were all due to end before the 1999 World Cup, were given a hearty vote of confidence by the England management advisory committee, which met at

Lord's yesterday.
David Lloyd, the coach appointed at the start of the 1996 season, has also had his contract extended beyond the World Cup, which will be in England. Wayne Morton, the phys-iotherapist, and the fitness consultant, Dean Riddle. complete the backroom

We are delighted with the progress we are making at international level, so it is quite right that we should recognise that progress by rewarding the selectors for their efforts." Tim Lamb, the ECB's chief executive, said.

The appointments will also ensure we maintain our policy of continuity in selection both as regards Test cricket and, in particular, during the build-up to

the World Cup." Graveney and Gooch, whose contracts were due to end in February 1999, have been given six-month extensions. Gatting, whose agreement rain to next Feb-

ruary, has been reappointed for a further rwo years.
Graveney said: "I'm obviously delighted the Board has seen fit to extend my contract and those of my colleagues. I have enjoyed the challenge of the role and I think things have gone reasonably well. with the recent victory in

Sharjah being a real boost for everyone." -Gooth, who will manage the A team tour of Kenya and Sri Lanka which starts on December 29, said: "I'm delighted and honoured to have been asked to remain involved and I look forward to continuing to put something back into the game. We have made real progress lately."

## England pull rank too late for World Cup

Russell Kempson unravels the implications of the

fter the pomp and cere-mony of the Stade Venew Fifa listing of football's movers and shakers

lodrome in Marseille three weeks ago, when the draw was made for the 1998 World Cup finals, most English observers reacted with a heady mix of glee and relief. Their position in group G, alongside Romania, Colom-bia and Tunisia, was deemed entirely satisfactory; it could have been better but it could have been much worse. Yes-terday, after the release of the latest rankings by Fifa, the sport's world governing body, England's task was placed in

a new perspective. England were ranked sixth at the time of the draw but are now fourth, their best position since 1992, when the Fifa list was first treated with any degree of seriousness. Only Brazil, the world champions, Germany, the European

On Boxing Day

proved. Romania and Hol-land received the last seeded champions, and the Crech Republic, who have failed to qualify for the finals in France next year, lie above them. Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, may view it as some

consolation, albeit belated, for the fact that his side was not seeded in the World Cup draw. Despite lobbying from the Football Association, Fifa stuck by its complex formula TOP TEN of taking into account 60 per cent of each country's records in the past three World Cup

official rankings. England were always at a disadvantage, having not reached the finals in the United States in 1994, and so it

finals and 40 per cent of its

berths - after Brazil, France. the hosts, Italy, Germany, Argentina and Spain - and Hoddle was forced to take pot

"It's amazing what's happened now," John Gorman, Hoddle's assistant, said yes-

who knows? Of greater significance in Fita's rankings is that, statistically, group G has taken on the mantle as the most competitive in the finals - the

group of death", perhaps. If England's position (fourth) is added to that of Romania (seventh), Colombia (tenth) and Tunisia (23rd), the total is

The closest is group A, on 66 - Brazil (tirst), Norway (thirteenth). Morocco (tifteenth) and Scotland (37th) - and the most distant is group D, with

tion of the huge progress the players have made under Glenn and John during the past two years," David Davies, the FA's head of external

affairs, said yesterday. "In another I2 months, maybe we can go even higher." Reports of every rship match

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